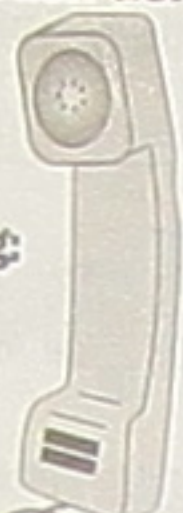


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THE CHART

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE COLLEGE, JOPLIN, MO 64801-1595
VOLUME No. 57, ISSUE No. 20

IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Meetings, dimmers, and duties are what fill a typical Tuesday for Rep. Gracia Backer...page 10A



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Athletes now able to pre-enroll early

Beard cites practice times, travel for College's decision

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The early pre-enrollment battle for Missouri Southern athletes is finally over, according to Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs.

At the beginning of March, Bitterbaum announced that athletes would be given the opportunity for early pre-enrollment with honor students and students involved with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Early pre-enrollment takes place today and Friday, while students with 90 or more hours can begin enrolling Monday.

Two years ago, members of the Student Athletes Assistance Council, proposed the idea of athletes being eligible for early pre-enrollment. SAAC's proposal, led by former Southern baseball player Bryce Darnell, was brought before Bitterbaum in 1995, but no decision was made.

Bitterbaum said the rationale behind the recent decision to allow student athletes early pre-enrollment was twofold.

"These are people who represent the College and spend many, many hours on the road representing the College," Bitterbaum said. "And you can say that with any sport. What is critical, of course, is having the opportunity to have their afternoons free."

After putting the proposal on the backburner two years ago, Bitterbaum explained the College's decision as "our thinking matured on the matter."

"We realized how difficult it was for our stu-



Bitterbaum

Early athletic pre-enrollment

Ten college and university admissions offices were asked if early athletic pre-enrollment was allowed. Here are the results:

Central Missouri	Yes
Lincoln University	No
Missouri-Kansas City	No
Missouri-Rolla	No
Missouri Southern	Yes
Missouri Western	No
Northwest Missouri	No
Southeast Missouri	Yes
Southwest Missouri	Yes
Truman State	No

RICK ROGERS/The Chart

dent athletes," he said. "And also when you visit with other schools, they felt like we were handicapping our own student athletes by not letting them pre-enroll."

With more than 250 students involved in various varsity sports at Southern, Bitterbaum said he thinks the decision gives athletes the opportunity to enroll in classes they need to get in to.

"Many afternoons during that semester which their sport takes place they are on the road," he said. "So, we are happy to help."

Tom Rutledge, men's track and cross country coach, said he thinks the athletes will

TURN TO ATHLETES, PAGE 2A

THIS ONE'S MINE



Matt Jordan, the 4-year-old son of Cindy Jordan, Spiva Library clerk at Missouri Southern, finds an egg during an Easter egg hunt in the campus oval Thursday.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Townsend gives team new start

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A new leader has emerged for the Lady Lion basketball program.

Amy Townsend was hired to fill the position of head women's basketball coach on March 17. Townsend replaces Carrie Kaifes, who resigned under pressure after the Lady Lions ended their season with a first-round loss in the MIAA post-season playoffs.

Sallie Beard, women's athletic director, said Townsend was chosen from a field of approximately 70 applicants.

Beard said Townsend's demeanor was a key factor in the decision to hire her. She said the new coach "brings a new level of vigor and excitement to the team."

"In general, it was the way she came in and presented herself during the whole interview process," Beard said. "The process took a full day. She came in at 9 a.m. and left at around 9 p.m. The way she communicated during the interview process and the work ethic she has demonstrated during the two weeks she's been here has been good."

Townsend comes to Missouri Southern via Pittsburg State University, where she served as

TURN TO COACH, PAGE 5A

BLOCK CLASSES

Initial data raises serious questions

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER

Though it may be too soon to draw any definite conclusions, initial data on the block class project does not indicate overwhelming success.

The project, launched in the fall of 1995, was designed to integrate freshmen into the campus and increase student retention.

"It was initially developed as our

Funding For Results project," said Dr. Betsy Griffin, co-director of the center for teaching and learning. "We said we would follow the first group through to graduation, so we're looking at it on a long-term basis."

By grouping incoming students in "blocks" where they have several classes with the same people, administrators believed students would make better social and academic connections and have a better sense of the connections

between various disciplines. This, they theorized, would result in more students staying in college and perhaps even improve grade-point averages.

Initial data shows an almost 5 percent increase in retention between fall and spring semesters, but it shows a slight decrease in retention between the more critical spring and fall semesters. Grade-point averages reflect no significant

TURN TO BLOCK, PAGE 6A

Fall 1995 Freshmen

Semester	% Enrolled		Cum. GPA		Sem. GPA	
	Block	Control	Block	Control	Block	Control
Fall '95	100	100			2.70	2.62
Spring '96	92.5	83	2.55	2.51		
Fall '96	61.7	62.1	2.75	2.83	2.63	2.80
Spring '97	60.0	55.6				

RYAN BRONSON/The Chart

FACULTY FEATURE



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Dr. Larry Martin, dean of arts and sciences at Missouri Southern, leads the Central City Christian Church congregation in verse during Easter services Sunday morning.

Martin leads local congregation in verse

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

He may be called Dean Martin, but don't expect him to be belting out any swinging tunes like "Volare" or "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

He's not the crooner who gained popularity as a member of Frank Sinatra's Rat Pack; he's really Dr. J. Larry Martin, Missouri Southern's dean of arts and sciences. He does, however, sing.

He does his singing at the Central City Christian Church. Some of the music, although it's mostly hymnals, contains some catchier tunes.

"There are a lot of different types of music," Martin said of the hymnals. "Selecting music to complement the sermon so people can see a connection is usually the hardest part."

One of the songs he performed at the Easter service sounded as though it belonged more at a

saloon than a church. If not for the lyrics, it would have been perfect music for the likes of John Wayne, Clint Eastwood, Gary Cooper, and Chuck Connors to play poker by.

Martin is a busy man at the church. He leads the church in song during services, which includes an opening number, three songs between preaching, and a closing praise hymn.

"We have one prefacing the Lord's Supper, but that's more for mood," he said.

Martin was a little worried at Easter services. When he walked down the aisle leading to his podium he noticed the floral decorations that day were lilies. He is allergic to lilies.

"By the end of the day my throat will be this wide," Martin said pinching his thumb and index finger a few centimeters apart.

Martin isn't the only one in his family who leads

IN GOD WE TRUST?

SECTION C:

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- A look at Missouri Southern's various religious groups.
- An overview of various international religions.
- An in-depth look at the intriguing belief of Scientology.

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SOUTHERN FACES:

Check out the Lewis men...page 7A

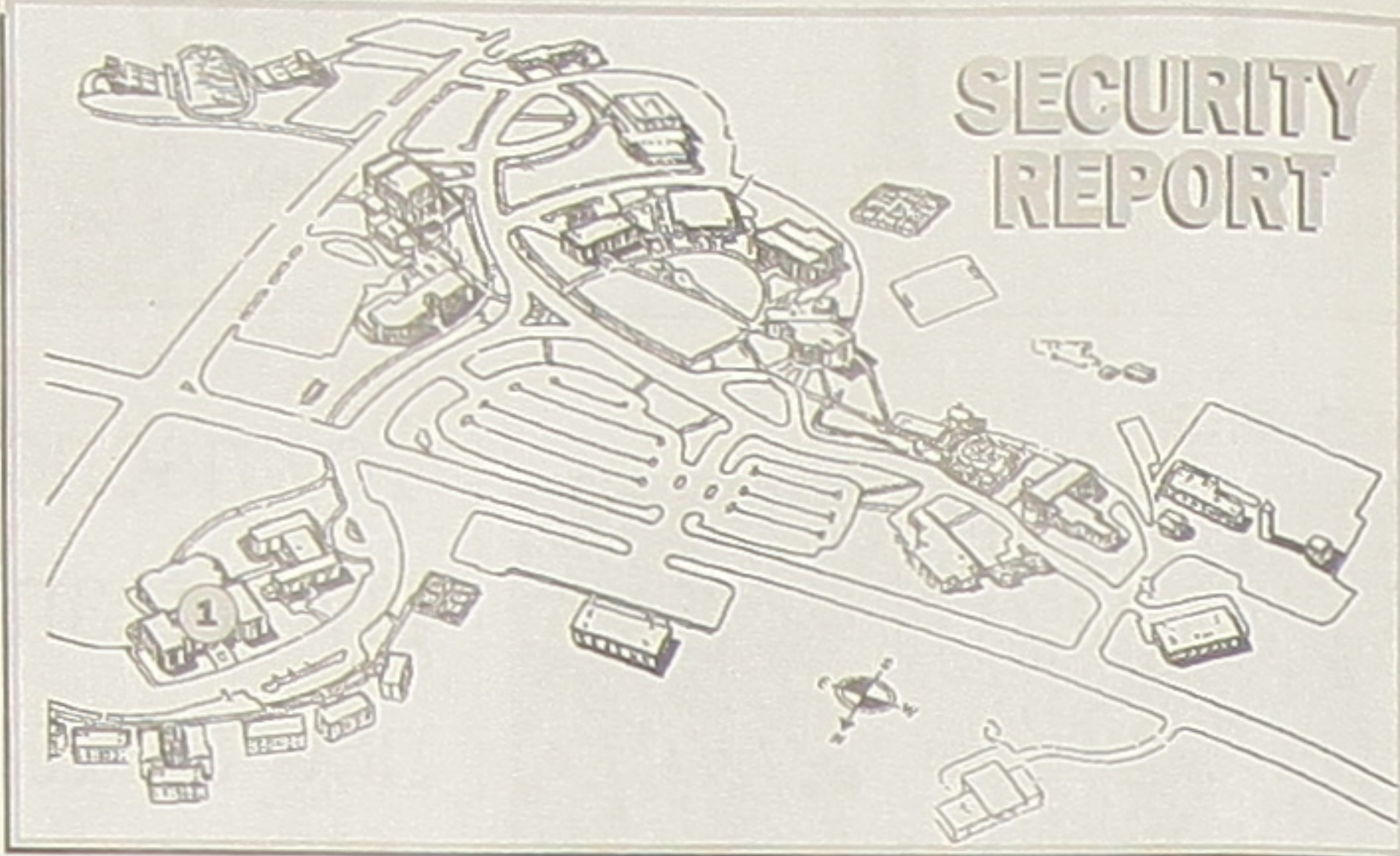


What is ALTERNATIVE?

SECOND FRONT:

Unusual dress, off-the-wall hair styles, and carefree attitudes aren't the only aspects of this unique breed...page 1B





SECURITY
REPORT

1 03/28/97 BLAINE HALL 6:30 a.m. Ron Mitchell, men's residence hall director, reported a sink in one of the restrooms on the first floor of Blaine Hall had been knocked loose. A ceiling tile was also damaged.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

ATHLETES: Practice time crucial factor in decision to allow athletic early pre-enrollment

From page 1A

appreciate the opportunity to pre-enroll early.

"I've got some kids who miss practices because they were not allowed to pre-enroll," Rutledge said.

"A lot of my kids are walk-ons and have to work at night. So, I have to get practice in between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. It helps people be on cam-

pus and be at practice on time."

Bitterbaum said many NCAA Division I and II schools have athletic enrollment programs such as the one Southern has put into effect.

Bitterbaum understands that some students may look at the College's decision as giving the athletes special treatment, but hopes they are able to see the larger picture.

"If you look at the amount of time they are away from campus, it can be quite dramatic," Bitterbaum said. "In addition, they have to practice in the afternoon."

Jason Foster, junior general studies major, said he didn't understand why a freshman athlete can enroll before a regular senior student who is nearing graduation.

"If they are going to make excep-

tions for athletes they should make exceptions for everyone with special interests — which is basically everyone," Foster said.

Ray St. Ledger, senior music education major, said he understood if athletes could early pre-enroll while their respective sport was in season.

"I know I have band everyday from 2:30 p.m.," St. Ledger said. "I can plan around that time, just like

they know they have practice every day."

Sallie Beard, women's athletic director, said the athletic department brought the proposal to Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, and Bitterbaum again this spring in hopes a resolution could take fold.

Beard said the opportunity for student athletes to pre-enroll before the rest of the student body will be

important for a number of reasons.

"One reason being that the College's athletic department will be instituting a practice rotation between all men's and women's sports beginning next fall," she said.

"For this plan to work effectively, all athletes must be able to register for classes that do not fall between the practice times of 2 and 6 p.m." □

NCATE
College begins report

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

It was way back in 1987 when a team from the North Central Association stopped by Missouri Southern to determine if the College was worthy of reaccreditation.

The time has come again, and preparations are being made by a campus-wide operation, said Dr. Betsy Griffin, co-chair of the North Central steering committee.

Southern is close to having a first draft of the self-study report completed, said the steering committee's other co-chair, Dr. J. Larry Martin.

"We're hoping to get a first draft of our self-study report by this month," Martin said.

"We will revise it this summer and have another version in the fall."

The report will be available to all faculty and staff, he said.

Autumn Ross, senior theatre major, is also a part of the process as the student representative to the steering committee.

Since the 1987 visit, the College has been working on the five major criteria expected of every college and university. Much has changed, however, since the last time the North Central team was at Southern.

"We, at the time, were working on a revision of our core curriculum," Martin said.

"We'd been working on that for awhile and they wanted a report."

Another major addition to the College has yet to be scrutinized by North Central.

"One of the major changes, of course, is the international mission, which wasn't even on the horizon in 1987," he said.

He said evaluators were stress-

ing the importance of assessment and also had a strong ethics and institutional integrity component to the accreditation process.

Besides the ethics criterion, North Central also evaluates the College's mission, the organizing of resources, the assessment of programs, and the College's showing of the continuation of programs.

The ethics evaluation is the newest criterion, but Griffin believes it will be the College's strongest point.

So far the College has adopted wording in the mission statement that points out the stance of institutional integrity.

"That may be the highlight of our report," Griffin said.

Martin said he expects the North Central team of some five evaluators to be on campus next spring for the accreditation process. □

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STUDENT SENATE

Body's funds stand at zero

Talley outlines instructor evaluation plans

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

It is official, Student Senate does not have any money left. Some of the clubs that received funding and did not use all of the money they received will be turning the funds back over to Senate.

Student Senate treasurer, Josh Phillips said he has received two checks, and money is materializing.

"This time last year we were out of money, there is only so much to hand out," he said.

According to Phillips' records, the year has been average. Senate is out of money this time of year more often than not.

Three allocations were sent back due to insufficient funds in the Senate's account.

"We are first come, first serve," he said. "Groups know months in advance if they have something coming up."

Phillips urged clubs to get their petitions in early next semester in order to get their names on the board as quickly as possible.

"I think all the groups received fair treatment. We tried to be consistent across the board and keep a \$1,000 cap on everything. We conserved the money and it went further," Phillips said.

During announcements Jason Talley, junior senator, discussed a meeting with Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs at Southern.

The meeting concerned the idea of a new evaluating system of professors by students and the posting of the evaluations.

The evaluations would include teaching style, testing style, and how well students liked the class and professor.

"It's really our right as students

66



Most teachers are not a problem. It is not our goal to put them on a pedestal and throw things at them.

Jason Talley
Junior senator

to know that stuff, because our money in part provides some of their salaries," Talley said.

The evaluations are meant to give the students an idea of what the class is about, and how it is taught.

This will make enrolling easier for the students, and should save the time and money necessary to drop a class.

"Most teachers are not a problem," he said. "It is not our goal to put them on a pedestal and throw things at them."

Also, elections for officers of next year's Student Senate will be held April 28-29. Elections are open to the entire student body. □

STUDENT FEATURE



Derrick and Wendi Good look over the agenda before the Student Senate meeting Wednesday. The Goods said working with the Student Senate allows them to spend more time together away from home.

Couple lives the Good life

By DEBORAH SOLOMON
MANAGING EDITOR

Their story began as children attending the same church while growing up in the St. Louis area. Best friends through high school, Wendi and Derrick Good "dated off and on."

Wendi, senior biology major, graduated from high school a year ahead of Derrick, senior criminal justice major, but decided to go to a community college in St. Louis. Derrick received an academic scholarship to Southeast Missouri State University the following year, and their long-distance separation made them realize they wanted to be together.

"Her mom inherited a house down here in Webb City," Derrick said. "After the first week of being in different place, we decided we wanted to live closer than six hours apart. We were used to living five minutes from each other."

Getting involved in Student Senate was a way for Derrick to represent people, he said.

"I know there are a lot of people out there who are really quiet, like she used to be," he said, nodding toward Wendi. "They might talk to you on a one-to-one basis, but if a problem arises, they aren't going to do anything about it."

Wendi, attending all of the Student Senate meetings during Derrick's first semester as a senator, decided to join when a spot became available for another senator.

"I went with Derrick every week, and thought it was interesting," she said. "I thought, 'I'm going to be going to all of the meetings. I might as well have a voice.'"

Wendi attributes her Senate participation to Derrick. "I use to be extremely quiet; Senate isn't something I

would have done on my own," she said. "I figure he is going to talk a lot, so I better go along and make sure there aren't too many waves."

Along with the Senate, both are involved in several other extracurricular activities including Greek organizations as well as other clubs. Both have part-time jobs as well.

How do they spend any time together?

"We try to take at least one class together each semester," Derrick said.

"But we try not to take tough classes together," Wendi added.

"We have taken one a semester except for last semester," Derrick said. "We just couldn't fit our schedules together."

They also said that Student Senate has allowed them to spend time together they might not otherwise have. They both agreed that the Senate didn't provide any tense moments between them.

"I don't think we have ever really had any disagreements over any issues," Derrick said.

"Usually," began Wendi when Derrick jumped in to finish her sentence, "we are on the same wavelength, probably 99 percent of the time."

"And if there is anything that comes up, we have usually talked about it before we get to Senate," Wendi added.

To the students of Missouri Southern, Derrick leaves this advice: "Don't complain about something if you are not willing to do something about the situation. Be involved."

Wendi agreed, "I used to be one of those people who wouldn't say anything, but here I am; it doesn't hurt," she said. "All it takes is your time if you want to go and try to change something." □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Second Spanish village to offer taste of culture

For the second year, "Villa Espanola," a Spanish Language Village, is being offered at Missouri Southern June 15-20.

The Village will offer a taste of Spanish-speaking cultures for 10- to 13-year-olds who spend a week living on the Southern campus.

The purpose of the camp is to develop Spanish language skills, encourage an interest in other cultures, broaden the intellectual scope of the villagers, and help them become responsible citizens in a global community.

"Learning about and participating in the culture brings the language to life," said Tatiana Karmanova, director of Southern's International Language Resource Center. "Campers learn because they are actively involved."

Villagers will learn numbers, weather terms, colors, greetings, names of places, conversational questions and answers, culture, geography, history, foods, songs, dances, and crafts.

"We also are developing a new level for those campers who attended last summer," Karmanova said.

The faculty includes native speakers of Spanish, American Spanish teachers, and students who have studied Spanish and lived in Spanish-speaking countries.

Campers will take part in small- and large-group games, computer activities, and recreational events such as soccer, swimming, and others. Villagers will receive a Southern "passport" and pass through immigration and exchange their U.S. currency for Spanish pesetas.

Cost of the camp is \$400, which includes tuition, food, lodging, and instructional materials. Some scholarships are available for students recommended by their teacher, counselor, principal, or consultant.

For more information, those interested are asked to call Karmanova at (417) 625-3109. □

Hospice Foundation set for 4th annual conference

The Fourth Annual Hospice Foundation of America Teleconference will be held from 12:15 to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 16 in Webster Hall auditorium on the campus of Missouri Southern.

The focus of the teleconference is "Living With Grief: When Illness Is Prolonged." Cost is \$10 per person. Continuing education credits will be available for nurses, counselors, funeral directors, clergy, and social workers.

The live-via-satellite interactive teleconferencing also will feature a local panel that will include Grace Ayton, a faculty member of Southern's nursing department; Dr. Richard Miller, head of Southern's social science department; and Mark Linn, representing St. John's Hospice.

Panelists for the satellite teleconference will be Betty Davies, Ph.D., professor of nursing at the University of British Columbia; Kenneth J. Doka, Ph.D., Lutheran minister and professor of gerontology at the College of New Rochelle; Dr. William Lamers, Jr., a founding member of the American Hospice Movement; and Therese A. Rando, Ph.D., clinical psychologist and executive director of the Institute for the Study and Treatment of Loss.

The teleconference will be moderated by Cokie Roberts of ABC News, who will guide several experts in a discussion of bereavement issues involved with prolonged illness, including those associated with cancer, heart disease, AIDS, and Alzheimers.

During the teleconference, viewers will be able to participate by telephone with comments and questions for a panel of bereavement experts from across the country.

Southern will be one of 2,000 other organizations across the United States and Canada hosting the teleconference. □

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Tuesday, April 22, 1997 - 12:20 p.m. - WH 210

Test

Tuesday, April 29, 1997 - 12:20 p.m. - WH 210

All out-of-state students who plan to graduate in May, 1997, July, 1997 or December 1997 who have not taken U.S. Gov't. or State and Local Gov't. in a Missouri College should see Pat Martin, Room H-318 on or before April 17 to sign up to take the test.

Please note: Students taking this test must pay a \$ 5.00 fee to the Business Office H-210 prior to taking the test; and present your receipt to the instructor when you go to the test room.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN

Now, who's wearing the intern's pants?

Lately, the 200-mile trek to Jefferson City is becoming very familiar to me.

I have been making it every week since the semester began to help keep the student body more aware of happenings at our State Capitol. This is the eighth year *The Chart* has sponsored the Capitol internship.

When I was approached last semester about the possibility of doing the internship, Dr. Stebbins, *The Chart* adviser, said, "You would be the first female we have ever sent." That idea was the driving force that led to my decision to accept the assignment.

In thinking back, I realize that I often tend to take on situations that are traditionally dominated by males. I can't say if the reason is that I get bored in conventional female roles, or maybe I just like to be surrounded by guys.

The first time my desire to be "one of the guys" emerged when I was a freshman in high school and I signed up for industrial arts instead of the typical young girl choice of home economics. I don't remember my parents ever questioning my decision, but I do recall the aghast reaction of all my friends as we huddled around the cafeteria table.

My participation in the industrial arts classes seemed to placate my desire for non-normalcy during my high school years. But then came graduation and all my friends were headed off to college, studying to become teachers, nurses, and artists. With the concept of college not floating my proverbial boat, I looked around for other possibilities.

The prospect that intrigued me the most was to join the Army. So I spent the next four years doing things like basic training, language school, inspections, and digging foxholes in Saudi Arabia.

I also managed to squeeze in some time to fall in love during my service. A year after Brad and I got out of the military, we were married. His job as a highway patrolman drew us to the southwest corner of the state, and we settled into a comfortable life with me working as a secretary at a printing company.

Maybe things got a little too comfortable because when a recruiter with the National Guard came in to get his business cards done, I was all too eager to sign up. That meant going away to a military school for three months to learn a new job. My coworkers all thought I was a little crazy to make this kind of commitment, but my husband was very supportive; maybe he saw something like this coming.

Well, that was two years ago, and since that time I have been masquerading as a normal college student. But once the opportunity arose to take on another male-dominated role, I jumped on it.

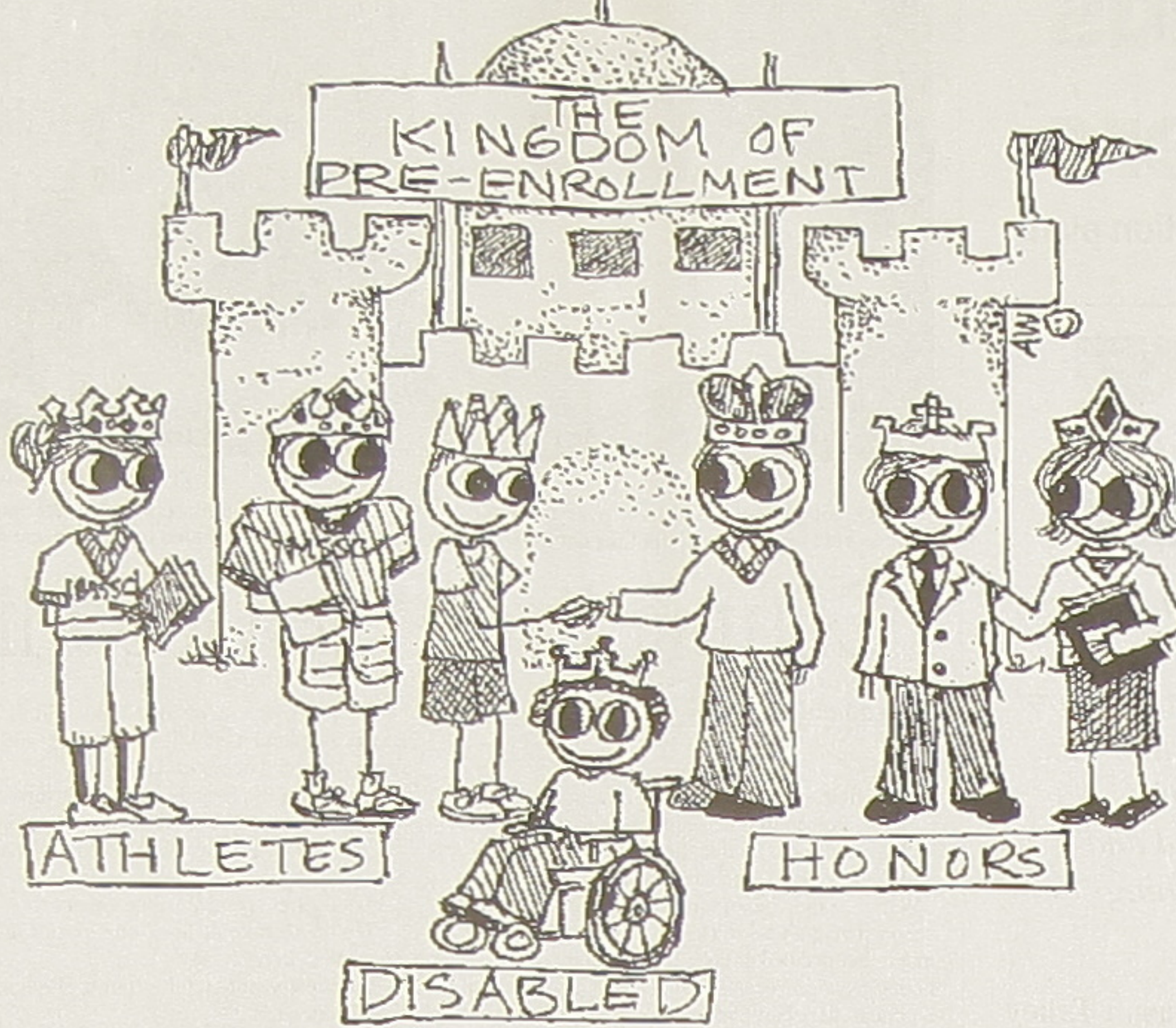
I honestly cannot say that my being a member of the gentler sex has had any effect on my experiences during the Capitol internship. Except maybe my feet are more sore than my predecessors due to the horrible excuse for footwear I have been subjected to in my quest to become a professional-looking reporter.

Actually, Sen. Marvin Singleton allows me to use his office as a home base, and just two doors down is a women's restroom. For a guy to perform the same necessary function, he practically must walk around the entire building.

I am really looking forward to showing next year's intern the ropes. I am sure she will enjoy it. □



Tammy Spicer
Associate Editor



OUR EDITORIALS

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of *The Chart* editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

There's no justification

Granted, athletes lead busy lives. But in the grand scheme of things, they lead no more busier lives than most of the other students at Missouri Southern.

Just because they are athletes who play games in not-so-distant lands should not require them to pre-enroll before the rest of the student body.

The College has quietly seen fit they are allowed to do just that. Now there will be three groups of students allowed to pre-enroll early.

Besides athletes and honor students, those students who are listed under the Americans with Disabilities Act are also given this special privilege.

Singling out any group on campus, besides disabled students, for special privileges leads only to problems.

This latest pre-enrollment gaffe by the administration

only proves the hypocrisy of the upper crust.

If the athletes are allowed to pre-enroll, there are at least seven other groups on campus who deserve the same right under the reasons given as to why the athletes are allowed early enrollment.

And there are probably 20 others groups on campus who don't deserve to pre-enroll but think they do because the athletes are. This is only going to lead to problems in the future. There is absolutely no justification for athletes needing early pre-enrollment. The classes they need are just as important to get into as the theatre major, or the music major, or the dental hygiene major who has more tests and quizzes to take in a semester than any group on campus.

This decision will go down as one of the biggest blunders in this College administration's history. □

Our various beliefs affect us all



Our purpose is to educate and inform. As with every special supplement *The Chart* produces each semester, we try to pinpoint one specific topic that affects everyone at the College and in the four-state area.

Religion, no matter what the denomination or belief, affects us all in many different ways.

Whether it is a cross draped around our necks, a guardian angel strapped to a car's visor, or a patch bearing an upside-down cross

stitched to a shoulder sleeve, our beliefs are part of what completes us.

This issue's special section, titled "In God We Trust?," provides information on various religious beliefs and campus organizations in hopes to pique new interests and thoughts — no matter what those thoughts may be.

The question mark at the end of the section's title symbolizes the various gods people hold values with, and is in no way attempting to discredit any one specific belief. □

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to *The Chart* office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: chart@vm.mssc.edu Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

Without Kaifes, Lady Lion hoops will not be the same

Since when does one average season mean a coach loses his or her job?

Evidently it did for Missouri Southern Lady Lions basketball coach Carrie Kaifes.

And for the first time in my six-year association as a fan of MSSC sports, I am truly disappointed in the athletic department.

I really can't understand why the College decided to ask for Kaifes' resignation. Sallie Beard's explanation that the team "needed a new direction" just doesn't make sense.

One year she is the coach of the year, and the next the team needs a new direction?

Is this the same athletic department that has backed to the hilt the men's basketball coach, Robert Corn, despite four straight years of mediocrity?

I don't support using a coach's win-loss record as the main reason to keep or dump him or her, but that appears to be what happened here.

Southern's women's basketball teams have consistently performed well over the past years, and even the best teams have down seasons.

The student athletes also seem to excel in the classroom. What more can a coach do?

Southern had a chance to build on a solid foundation.

Kaifes and Scott Ballard had built that solid foundation, but now the College has chosen to throw that all away.

What's done is done, and I hope the new coach can continue the tradition of success built so far. But for me as a fan, Lady Lion basketball will never be the same.

The College let go a truly nice person, who had a lot of talent and had her priorities in order. This is real disappointing.

John Hacker
Class of 1995

IN PERSPECTIVE

Working up to your goals is all it takes

We are not all cut out to be straight-A students or the starting quarterback or the CEO of a company. But we are designed to make the most of what abilities, talents, skills, and intelligence we do possess.

The happiest people in the world are those who are working up to their potential. Perhaps the most splendid achievement of all is the constant striving to surpass yourself.

It is the belief that you can do better, that you want to improve yourself, that you will make the effort to accomplish something worthwhile. I feel I'm making that effort to accomplish something worthwhile this semester by teaching my first course here at Missouri Southern. I am achieving one of my lifelong goals of having the opportunity to teach, motivate, and share real-life career experiences with students at the college level.

Achievement takes effort. And one of the biggest efforts is in working on yourself. Believe me, I worked a good one on myself preparing to teach my class. I kept thinking what if I can't do this, what if they (the students) all walk out the first day, what if I can't keep them interested or motivated, what if they think the class is a joke. But all my worries were put to rest as I entered Webster Hall Room 317 on Jan. 14 with my best PR face on (isn't that interesting, the class I'm teaching is Introduction to Public Relations). The students were and continue to be extremely enthusiastic and motivated to learn about the field of public relations. They want to achieve and be successful. It is very rewarding to be able to take my PR experiences and background from the last 12 years and bring it to the classroom.

So you ask, "What's the recipe for successful achievement?" Well, No. 1: Enjoy your work and what you do everyday. No. 2: Always do your best. No. 3: Develop good working relationships. And No. 4: Be open to opportunities.

Fulfill these four requirements and you'll be on the road to achieving success, wealth, and happiness. True achievement is actually based on self-esteem, self-discipline, and self-reliance. When you achieve something of worth, you are adding riches not only to yourself, but to the whole world. Carry the affirmative motto: My rewards in life will reflect my service and contribution. Look for truth and speak the truth. Don't let the ads and the fads make you into one of the countless victims of greed and the fringe subcultures. You can't cheat achievement with a fancy car or a big house. True achievement can be had only by doing your best and by knowing you are worth your best effort.

Invest in your own knowledge and skill development. The only real security in life is the kind that is inside each of us.

Remember, achievement never happens overnight. You won't suddenly be all you can be. But you can do it gradually, step by step, day by day. Don't worry if your steps seem small and unimportant. What is important is that you are accomplishing each step and doing it well. That's the road to bigger things. If you want to achieve, if you *work* to achieve, you *will* achieve.

True achievement is a melding of success, wealth, and self-satisfaction with service to others, rich friendships, and the ability to enjoy all the bounties of this life. □



Lisa Clark
Adjunct faculty, communications

LEARNING CENTER

'Bank' keeps exams on file

Learning Center offers program dealing with testing

By STEPHANIE WARD
EDUCATION EDITOR

A new bank is open on the campus of Missouri Southern. This new bank does not deal with money, however, but with tests.

Eileen Godsey, director of the Learning Center, said a number of requests spawned the idea of creating a "test bank" where students could look at old tests submitted by instructors.

"For us, it's just an effort to expand our services to students to have things that are available that would be helpful to students," Godsey said.

She said this service would be helpful to students unsure about new instructors and their tests. Godsey said looking at the tests can provide help by being able to see the types of questions and formats the instructors use.

"Any time you have that little bit of insight into a class it's always helpful," she said.

The service is totally on a voluntary basis with instructors. It is up to them to submit old tests to the test bank.

Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history, does not think the test bank is a good idea.

He said he uses many of the same questions on his tests.

"I don't want the students to study just for the test," he said. "I

want them to learn for themselves."

Dr. Benita Sinha, assistant professor of geography, agrees. She said geography involves factual learning. If students have a test to study from, they will neglect their textual study.

Godsey said some faculty already have tests available to students in the library.

She said students who come to the Learning Center have been asking for tests. The Learning Center then asked the library to share in this service. No tests have been turned in thus far.

"Since students come over here for academic assistance, that's just one more way we thought we could provide a service to them," Godsey said.

If the test bank idea is successful, she said, the tests would be available for students to come and peruse.

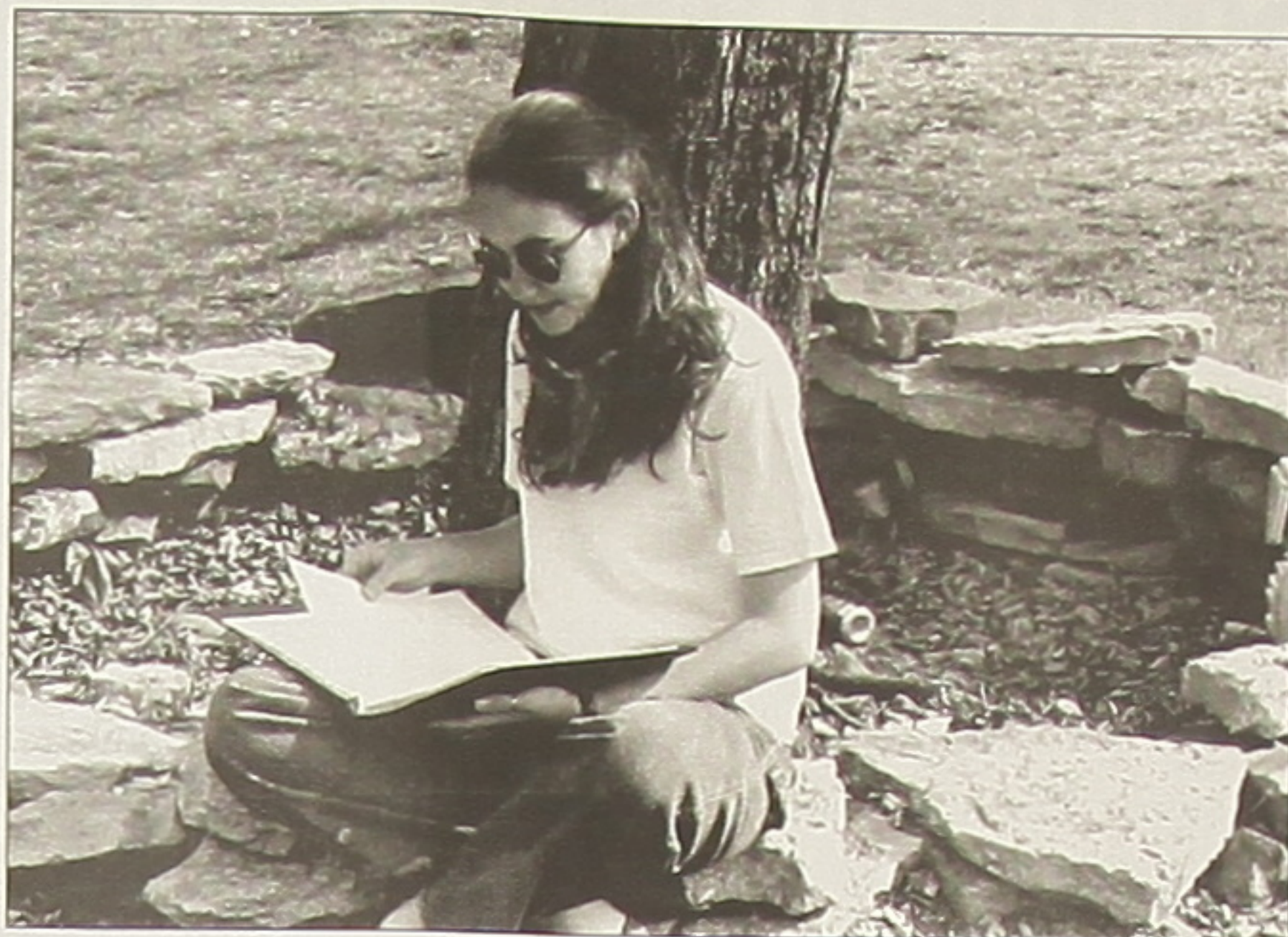
Students will be able to copy the tests for five cents a page. Godsey said the tests would be updated every semester. In addition, she said there would be an updated list of the available tests on the Learning Center's Internet home page.

Jonathan Sabo, senior English major, believes it is a good idea because some instructors ask difficult questions.

Godsey suggests students interested in the test bank ask their instructors if they are participants and if they have any tests on file.

"Our whole goal is to make students successful," she said, "and anything that we can provide and offer, that's what we would like to do." □

SITTIN' IN THE SUN



Wendy Walker, junior medical technology major, enjoys the warm temperatures while studying Thursday.

TIM WILSON/The Chart

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Seniors to teach abroad in spring

By SCOTT HAAR
STAFF WRITER

The domino effect of global vilification has rippled its way to the campus of Missouri Southern.

The teacher education department is currently taking applications for six positions available for a student teaching/teacher exchange program that would take some Southern seniors to England next spring.

"We have always emphasized that our students have the opportunity to experience teaching in diverse populations such as rural and suburban areas," said Dr. Michael Horvath, dean of the school of education.

"This is just an extension of that philosophy."

Students interested in the program must meet such requirements as a 3.25 grade-point average; successful course attendance, commitment, and performance; and produce a written essay explaining why they are interested in the program.

Horvath said the program, funded by the College and the students themselves, will allow students to experience the teaching methods of another culture firsthand.

"England has a lot of concepts that are controversial in this country," said Dr. Vikki Spencer, who is helping to coordinate the program.

She said issues such as a national

curriculum for primary and secondary education, as well as prayer in school, have entered the education scene in England.

Students from Southern will teach classes in primary and secondary education facilities for five weeks of the six-week trip. In preparation for the program, students will take a class in comparative education on campus next fall. Also, the six students will get to know a faculty supervisor from Southern who will be making the trip to England as a mentor and evaluator.

Spencer said the faculty supervisor will also conduct workshops with British instructors focusing on the American education system. □

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Birds, raptors first love for Southern graduate

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER

For Higinio Covarrubias III, a degree in biology was for the birds. The 1995 Missouri Southern graduate now spends his days in the company of about 20 raptors.

Covarrubias began his post-college career when he was hired by the World Bird Sanctuary to do bird shows at zoos, first in North Carolina, then in Wisconsin.

In September he accepted a naturalist position at one of the World Bird Sanctuary's nature centers in Eureka, Mo.

One of his main duties is to make educational presentations with the raptors.

"The purpose is to educate people about birds, their habitats, and the dangers to those habitats," he said. "We teach people how to preserve wildlife."

"What he's doing is the most important way to save raptors," said Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology at Missouri Southern.

Covarrubias' traveling show stars seven raptors: a Harris' hawk, a red-tailed hawk, a turkey vulture, a great-horned owl, a screech owl, a

barn owl, and his favorite, an American Kestrel, more commonly known as a sparrow hawk.

Covarrubias takes his entourage to schools, sports shows, summer camps, scouting programs, and general public gatherings where he displays the birds and demonstrates their unique qualities.

When he's not on the road, he greets visitors at the Lone Elk County Park, serving as guide and instructor.

"When I was going to school, I never imagined myself doing something like this," he said.

"I never thought I would be doing public speaking, but I really like talking to kids and people about raptors, helping them notice and recognize the birds they see."

"Dr. Jackson helped me start checking out different possibilities," he said.

"I started doing volunteer work at George Washington Carver [National Monument], and I found that I really liked doing outdoor work."

Students who are interested in doing an internship with the World Bird Sanctuary or would like more information may contact Maggie Bogart at (314) 938-6193. □

COACH: Sees need for team stability

From page 1A

head volleyball coach and assistant women's basketball coach under head coach Steve High. She previously was an assistant basketball coach at Southeast Missouri State University.

Townsend said her familiarity with the area will aid her in the new post.

"I'm from Girard [Kan.]; I know the area," she said. "Seven of the eight years I've been an NCAA coach have been in the MIAA."

Townsend said the change from head volleyball coach to head basketball coach is welcome and will not be difficult. "I feel educated in the sport of basketball; I've had some great

mentors," she said. "I've been with basketball longer than I have been with volleyball. I can now concentrate on just one sport, not share my wants or needs with two sports or two groups of girls."

Townsend said her immediate goal is to meet the team and develop a relationship with the players.

"I'm getting to know the players and getting comfortable with them," she said. "I am making sure they are comfortable with the transition. We just started a six-week conditioning program where we meet four days a week."

"Right now I see a need for stability between the staff and the team," she said. "We need to get together, be together, and share together." □

HIGHER EDUCATION BRIEFS

SEMO to grant Angelou honorary doctoral degree

Southeast Missouri State University will award Dr. Maya Angelou an honorary doctoral degree during the April 10 inauguration ceremony of Dr. Dale Nitzschke as the 16th president of the university.

Angelou, who has had a distinguished career as a poet, author, educator, historian, actress, and playwright, will be the keynote speaker at the inauguration.

"Dr. Angelou, through her works, represents the intellectual and humanitarian values which are consistent with the mission and goals of higher education," Nitzschke said. "She represents a level of accomplishment to which others may aspire and the highest ideals of her chosen fields."

SEMO's Board of Regents is authorized to award honorary doctoral degrees in honor of distinguished achievement, accomplishment, or service. The university presented its first honorary doctoral degree posthumously in May 1996 to Rush Limbaugh Sr.

Angelou has written two best sellers, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *I Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now*. □

Planetarium renovation at MWSC now possible

Because of a recent major gift to the Missouri Western State College Foundation, the college plans to renovate and remodel the existing planetarium located in the Agerstein Science and Mathematics Building.

A substantial gift of real estate was given to the college from the Joseph Bushman Estate. The property, which included 411 acres of farmland and three houses, was subsequently sold.

The planetarium, which was originally constructed 27 years ago, is in need of renovation. Over the years the planetarium has played host to more than 50,000 guests and been a vital part of the curriculum for astronomy students.

"We are very grateful to the Bushman family for their support of Missouri Western," said Dr. Janet Murphy, college president. "It is my understanding that the Bushmans believed strongly in higher education, and in particular, education for the people of north-west Missouri."

With the help of the Bushman Estate, Missouri Western's goal is to renew the use of the planetarium for another 25 years. Fewer than 200 facilities exist in the United States. □

Truman instructors to take part in program

Three Truman State University instructors will be moving their offices to England for the summer to teach courses at the Imperial College of the University of London as part of the London Summer Program.

The program allows American instructors and students to work hand in hand. It is divided into two three-week sessions with an optional internship. Students may attend either session, both sessions, or the first session plus an internship.

Gary Jones, assistant professor of language and literature, will teach "Communications — The Image of Image-Making: Portrait of Public Relations in Britain and America."

"It gives us all a chance to explore some educational opportunities firsthand in the 'laboratory' of British culture," Jones said. "Knowledge and information are increasingly situated in a global context — and in that context this experience can be invaluable for students and faculty."

Seymour Patterson, professor of economics, will teach "Economics — International Trade Theory and Policy." John Hart, associate professor of communications, will teach "Great Speeches of World War II: Churchill and Roosevelt." □

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				3	4	5
6	7	8	9			

Today 3

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—
Koinonia Lunch, basement of Stegge Hall
12:20 p.m.—
Model United Nations meeting, Webster Hall, Room 223
6:30 p.m.—
Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge
7 p.m.—
Zeta Tau Alpha meeting, Panhellenic room
• Baptist Student Union, Thursday Night Together, BSU Building

Friday 4

High School District Instrumental Music Festival
11:00 a.m.—
Chi Alpha meeting, Webster Hall, Room 115
9:30 p.m.—
Koinonia lock-in, College Heights Christian Church

Saturday 5

High School District Voice Music Festival
9 a.m.—
Tennis at Missouri Western
1 p.m.—
Baseball at Lincoln University

Sunday 6

1 p.m.—
Baseball at Lincoln University
6 p.m.—
Newman Club meeting, St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8th and Pearl
7 p.m.—
Sigma Pi meeting, Stegge Hall basement
• Alpha Sigma Alpha meeting, Panhellenic Room

Monday 7

Pre-registration begins for students with 90 or more hours
7 p.m.—
Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building
• CAB movie night presents *Seven and Copycat*, Student Life Center
• Culturally Speaking meeting, Student Life Center
9 p.m.—
On-Campus Bible Study, Apt. H-7, Stone Hall

Tuesday 8

Track: Missouri Southern/Pittsburg State Duel at PSU
Noon—
Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, BSC, Room 313
12:15 p.m.—
Non-traditional student brown bag lunch, Heames Hall, Room 211
12:20 p.m.—
College Republicans meeting, BSC, Room 311
2:15 p.m.—
Chi Alpha meeting, BSC, Room 311
7 p.m.—
Koinonia main meeting, College Heights Christian Church
• "Mass Murder & Serial Killing Exposed" by Jack Levin, Webster auditorium
• Career services interviews, for info call 625-9343

Wednesday 9

Regional Science Fair
Noon—
Psychology Club, Taylor Hall, Room 123
• CAB general board meeting, BSC Room 311
1 p.m.—
Baseball vs. Truman State, Joe Becker Stadium

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Southern welcomes murder consultant

Famous professor visits to speak on serial killers

By HEATHER DEMIER
STAFF WRITER

Serial murders will be the topic when a highly acclaimed speaker comes to Missouri Southern next week. On Tuesday, Dr. Jack Levin, of Northeastern University in Boston, will base his presentation on experience with serial killers, their families, and surviving victims.

"It's interesting to learn about how people really think when they do things like this, when they commit mass murders," said Julie Wiecken, sophomore business major and CAB lectures chair.

In his presentation, Levin will look into the minds of vicious serial killers. He will discuss crimes committed by Jeffrey Dahmer, Theodore (Ted) Bundy, and John Wayne Gacy.

Wiecken said Levin will also include excerpts from his recent book, *Overkill, Mass Murder and Serial Killing Exposed*.

Levin has worked as a consultant in serial

murder investigations and has appeared on such shows such as "Oprah," "Donahue," "Gerald," "Joan Rivers," "Larry King Live," "The Today Show," "Good Morning America," "20/20," "48 Hours," and "Unsolved Mysteries."

"I think it's kind of interesting that we're having this lecture around the same time a serial killer has been in the area here recently," said Andrea Emanuel, sophomore English major and CAB chairperson of tour, travel, and cultural events.

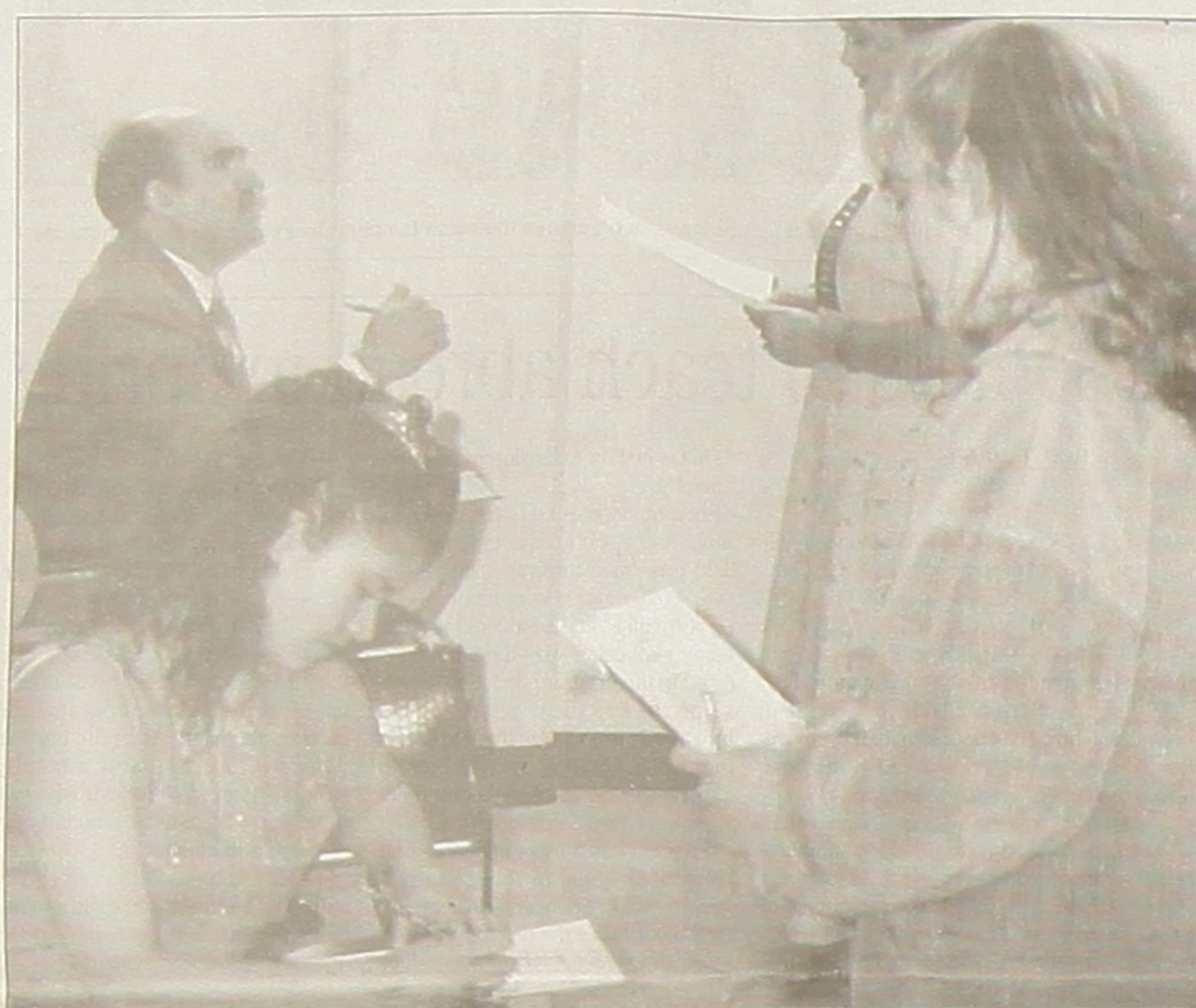
Since this is such an interesting and informative topic, Emanuel is hoping that, in addition to criminal justice majors, a large number and variety of people will attend.

"I think there will be a great turnout with the release of movies like *Natural Born Killers* and *Seven*," said Adam Doss, sophomore theatre major.

"I was watching a show about serial killers on the Discovery Channel, and they had a segment on with Dr. Levin," he said. "It was cool because I knew he was going to be lecturing here."

Levin will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Webster Hall auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public. □

¿COMO ESTAS?



Kathy Sisa, Missouri Southern International student from Colombia (front), teamed up with Dr. Juan Vazquez, head of the mathematics department, to judge area high school students in Tuesday's Foreign Language Field Day.

GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

INTRAMURALS

Soccer teams need students to kick in

By TRAVIS CAGLE
STAFF WRITER

Intramural sports at Missouri Southern will include a coed soccer team if enough students are interested.

Last semester, a group of females tried to start a women's soccer club, but the effort was disbanded due to inclement weather. So this semester, Cindy Wolfe, director of aquatics and intramurals, decided to start a coed soccer intramural program.

"I've had several guys show interest in playing," she said. "I've decided to

try it out this spring, and if it works, it will continue on as long as people are interested."

Wolfe is hoping to get at least 30 people to sign up. She said there is not a fee this semester because she just wants to get it going. If everything goes well, it will become an annual intramural sport.

"We need more people to get involved," said Kathleen Lalip, a junior communications major. "And some guys I know want to play, but they thought it was just for women, but it's not. It's for anybody."

Lalip said if enough women sign up

to play intramurals and are still interested in playing, they will try to a women's soccer club program next year.

"I transferred from SBU (Southwest Baptist University), and they had a women's soccer team and there wasn't one here," she said. "So I decided to get one started, but the weather didn't quite cooperate. I'm hoping there are enough girls to sign up this year who are interested to start the club up next year."

Even though the soccer sign-up deadline has passed, Wolfe has decided to extend the date. Students can sign up in the racquetball office. □

BLOCK: Lack of age diversity most common complaint

From page 1A

difference between the block students and those in the control group.

In the absence of solid evidence of success, perceptions of success may be more important at this stage of the experiment. Student and faculty evaluations from the fall of 1996 reveal that 80 percent of students would choose to participate in the block program again, but almost 40 percent of the faculty said they would not teach a block class again.

The most common complaint among faculty is the lack of age diversity in the block classes, which results in a variety of problems.

"Because the class is comprised of all 18- or 19-year-olds, it makes it a sterile experience," said Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology. "It denies them the life experience of older people and it perpetuates a high school philosophy of problem solving."

In response to faculty concerns, Griffin said the administration plans to add non-traditional students to the block classes next fall. Some faculty, however, wonder why that didn't happen this year. "The administration did not fail to give us ample opportunities for feedback, but I truly felt like we were talking but nobody

was listening," said Dr. William Kumbier, associate professor of English. "I thought there were enough unresolved problems with the block class program that it shouldn't have been expanded."

According to Griffin, the number of block classes was increased from five last year to nine this year because the data indicated that the project was "really successful." She also said a Fresh Start program for non-traditional students will be added this summer as a means of incorporating non-traditional students into block classes. Faculty agreed that the block situation increased student bonding, but they also noticed some negative results of the bonding.

"Peer pressure is much more prevalent in block classes than I thought it would be," Jackson said. "If 10 percent of the class is very familiar with the concept being presented, but 90 percent still want to have it discussed and I ask the class 'Do you want me to go over it again?' and one of the 10 percent says, 'No we already know it,' the 90 percent will clam up for fear of looking stupid."

"Clearly the students were bonding," Kumbier said. "But I never got to the point where I could transform that into academic bonding, to get

them to study with each other and encourage each other to do more."

Some faculty did not anticipate the changed dynamics of the block class.

"Discipline turned out to be a big problem, partly because of the cliquish behavior and partly because it took us awhile to realize that we really were teaching high school classes," Kumbier said. "The students had no reason to treat the experience as anything other than an extension of high school. It threw us for a loop. We were not prepared for that."

Mike Rodgers, assistant professor of English, who expected the block class to be different, said he enjoys the challenge. "I think I'm just a natural for something that requires me to shift my plan a lot," he said. "I'm a totally spontaneous teacher. To me, 'block' simply means doing something different. If you don't perceive it that way, you can't prepare for it."

Each block class is paired with another, and instructors are encouraged to collaborate on their material. Rodgers likes that aspect of the block classes, and he believes it helps students see the big picture. "I get a sense of what they have to do in other classes," he said. "As a comp teacher, I'm the smaller dimension. The larger dimension is what they have to do all

BLOCK NUMBERS

Student response:

In retrospect, would you again choose to be part of the block groups? Why or why not?

Fall 1995:

Yes, 87%; No, 11%; Unsure 2%

Spring 1996:

Yes, 88%; No, 4%; Unsure 8%

Fall 1996:

Yes, 80%; No, 16%; Unsure 4%

Faculty response:

Would you again choose to be a part of the block program? Why or why not?

Spring 1996:

Yes, 77%; No, 23%

Fall 1997:

Yes, 62%; No, 38%

across campus. If they have to write an essay for another class, I want to teach them how to develop a strategy for writing that essay."

Griffin expects to make some changes in the block classes as the experiment continues. "Based on faculty and student surveys from last year, we did some fine tuning this year," she said. "We hope to form an advisory panel of people from different parts of the campus who will take a close look at the block and help us fine tune it further." □

MARTIN:

Voice never fails

From page 1A

the church musically. His oldest daughter, Jamie Smith, is the church's pianist. Martin prefers his daughter to accompany him, rather than singing along with a tape.

"When you sing with a tape, you're the accompanist," Martin complained. "With a pianist, they accompany you."

Martin was a little bitter about the tape, as his experience with it at the Easter service did not go smoothly. The tape had to be rewound after the first attempt because he was distracted. But after that it was smooth sailing. Martin received applause after the number, which ended in a high octave change. A look of trepidation swept across his brow before he attempted the high note, which came out perfectly. No effect of the lilies could be heard in his voice.

"My voice doesn't fail me very often," he said.

Besides the singing, Martin, who used to be head of the mathematics department at Southern, reads announcements to the flock. □



Dr. Loreen Huffman, assistant professor of psychology, and Scott Frogge, senior psychology major, look over a workbook assignment between classes in Taylor Hall.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Aaron and Caleb Lewis are the only twins on the football Lions.

Brothers reunite after semester apart

By BETH HAMILTON
CHART REPORTER

People are seeing double when looking at the players on the Missouri Southern football field. Or are they? At a glance, numbers 84 and 12 look suspiciously alike. The pair are Aaron and Caleb Lewis, both junior health promotion and wellness majors, and obviously twins.

Aaron says most of the football players and coaches can't tell them apart either.

"They all call us twin," he laughs.

There are not any other twins on the football team and have not been since they have played at Southern. But they have not always competed together in college.

"I went to Southwest Baptist University for one semester because they gave me a chance to play football," Caleb said.

He says he left SBU because it cost too much and he wanted to play closer to home.

Caleb and Aaron both "walked on" to Southern's football team during their second semester. Caleb, a punter and a kicker, later earned a scholarship.

He was awarded honorable mention all-conference punter for the Lions during the 1996 football season. Aaron is a wide receiver and snapper.

"I decided to play football because I was in athletics through all of high school, and then when high school was over I watched my brother play football at SBU," Aaron explains. "I kind of missed playing it, and I decided to walk on for football at Southern."

Caleb, the older of the two, says there is nothing novel about being on the same team as Aaron.

"We've been playing together since we were kids, so nothing really has changed," he said. "It's just a different level of sports we're playing together."

Both say they also enjoy all kinds of sports, such as basketball pick-up games, golf, and weight training.

Their preoccupation with sports is reflected in another of their activities. They are both active in a campus club called Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"It's a time where some of my friends and I can get together and talk about Christ," Caleb said. "It's really an encouragement."

The two go to church at Peoria (Okla.) Assembly of God, where their grandfather is pastor. But their immediate family does not live in Peoria. □

CONTINUING EDUCATION

McAdams hopes to counsel in war on addictions

By BETH HAMILTON
CHART REPORTER

Alcohol...drugs...both can be abused. Dr. Wendell (Mac) McAdams, technical program specialist, looks forward to counseling those who might abuse either.

McAdams has been involved in programs dealing with this abuse since he was asked to help start a program at a former job.

"I was responsible for setting up the employee assistance program," he explains. This was to help people at his workplace deal with drug and alcohol problems.

"I'd like very much to eventually open a private practice for counseling people with addictions," McAdams says.

That is why, in addition to his duties at Missouri Southern, he is also taking classes at Pittsburg State University. He hopes to earn a counseling certificate for drug and alcohol abuse.

This interest in counseling also contributed to his finding a wife. Eva Maria Garza-McAdams, a student of psychology here, shares his passion for helping people with alcohol- and drug-related problems.

"We'd both gotten involved in counseling," McAdams said. "She was doing work through the church, and I was involved in a telephone helpline and later spoke to groups and civic organizations."

This became a common thread for them. They became friends and later married. At Southern he deals with distance learning. While his title says

he is a technical program specialist, he says he is more of a distance learning specialist, which involves delivering instructions by any means, especially electronic. Televised classes, whether broadcast to or from Southern, are examples of distance learning.

Along with television, computers are another medium used in McAdams' line of work. In addition to being a necessity for his job, he says, "Computers are an avocation with me."

Other hobbies include golfing and reading. He believes golfing is therapeutic, because he can walk and carry his golf bag. This not only gives him enjoyable exercise, but he says it is also a way to relieve stress.

"People need to do that every once in a while," he said. □

British Isles intrigue teacher

By JEFF BILLINGTON
CHART REPORTER

Exploring Castle Caernarfon on the coast of Wales is just one of the places Dr. Loreen Huffman has had the privilege of visiting.

Huffman's vacations have allowed her to crisscross the United States and see a large portion of England, Scotland, and Wales.

"In Scotland we stayed with some Scots, and in Wales we saw signs in both English and Welsh," explained Huffman, assistant professor of psychology.

She grew up in rural western Pennsylvania and comes from a large family.

"Even now when I go home I always run into someone who knows me at the supermarket," Huffman said.

She received her B.A. in individual and family studies from Pennsylvania State University at State College, Pa. Huffman

then spent nine years at Rutgers University in New Jersey getting her M.A. and Ph.D.

She spent the next year as a research associate in the department of psychology and behavior at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Huffman helped in a pharmaceutical study for Luvox (Fluvoxamine) to treat obsessive compulsive disorder.

"I did functional analysis to see how they reacted," she explained. "I wasn't told how much they were given."

While in school she had a collage of different jobs, from delivering newspapers to doing assessments on HIV and AIDS patients.

"I did assessments and worked with babies with HIV and AIDS at Belview Hospital's Infectious Disease Clinic in New York," Huffman said. "Most parents were drug users, and all the mothers were infected."

Huffman and her husband, clinical psy-

chologist James Novalany, moved to this area in the fall when she started working at Missouri Southern.

Her husband then accepted a job teaching at Pittsburg State University part-time and doing research.

"I came to Southern because it gave me help in the teaching field," Huffman said. "It's a friendly, supportive environment."

She believes Southern is more tuned toward students than larger universities.

"One semester at Rutgers I taught two classes, had about 300 students in each, and only two office hours a week," Huffman said. "Here, I have 150 students total and 10 office hours a week."

Her hero is Charles Colson, who wrote *Born Again*, which tells about his experience of Watergate, prison, and religion.

"He used a terrible experience and grew from it. He realized what a mistake it was to value his job so much," Huffman explained. □

ART DEPARTMENT

"I wanted to give back what was given to me."



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Gary Crim, senior art education major, doesn't have great riches and wealth on his mind, as he concentrates on teaching and his love for ceramics.

Fun includes getting dirty, teaching art

Crim credits high school mentor, teacher for choice

By MOOSE LEIGHTON
CHART REPORTER

Great riches and wealth isn't on the mind of senior art education major Gary Crim. "I really want to teach," he said. "It's not about money, it's about learning."

Although one of his paintings on display at the Spiva Art Gallery may cost \$100 or more, Crim says his true interest is in ceramics.

"I like working with the clay," he said. "Getting my hands dirty is part of the fun."

Crim has sold several of his ceramic pieces to a variety of different people.

"A couple of my pieces are in Sweden as well as locally," he said. "Sam Butcher of Precious

Moments has one of my ceramics in his private collection. I took that as quite a compliment."

Crim wasn't always academic-minded.

"I really didn't care for school until I took art from Mark VanSlyke," he said.

VanSlyke teaches at Washburn High School.

"He was one of the reasons why I elected art education as my major," Crim said. "I wanted to give back what was given to me."

Crim gave high praises for his high school mentor.

"Mark VanSlyke is who I look up to," he said. "He taught me a lot. I would like to make a difference in others like he has made for me."

After Crim graduates from Missouri Southern, he plans to seek his master's degree while teaching high school.

"When I graduate with my master's, I would like to teach ceramics at a college," he said.

Though most students would have their hands full with 19 hours at Southern, Crim finds time to work at Westlake Hardware, participate at the Baptist Student Union, and attend the Fellowship Baptist Church in Joplin. He also helped build a house for the Habitat for Humanity volunteer program.

"I just enjoy helping," he said humbly.

Crim plans to travel to Sweden this summer with students from the art department at Southern.

"It will be pretty exciting," he said. "I'm looking forward to the experience."

When he is not busy with school and work, Crim likes to unwind by riding his motorcycle. "I like to ride; I just can't work on them," he said laughing.

Crim gives this advice for art students: "From day one, push yourself," he said. "Go beyond what is required." □



MIKE FOX/The Chart

Dr. Wendell McAdams works with part-time employee Brent Kilgore.

REGIONAL
NEWS
BRIEFS

Suspect gives up after
daylight bank heist

A private investigator-turned bank robber gave himself up to Joplin police after holding up the Commerce Bank of Joplin branch at 1804 E. 20th on Monday.

Gary Harrelson, 35, owner of Orion Investigations Company, allegedly entered the Commerce bank at 10:15 a.m. and stated he had a weapon. The clerk handed over an undisclosed amount of \$100 bills, and the suspect left without ever producing the weapon.

Harrelson's flight lasted just over 11 hours when at approximately 9:15 p.m., he called authorities to say he was tired of running. Before the phone call and before charges were filed against him, Joplin police had already learned of Harrelson's identity through a prior encounter with the suspect earlier that day.

Harrelson is being held at the Jasper County Jail in Carthage with bond set at \$100,000. □

Police warn of scams
used in four-state area

Joplin police warn that with the summer season approaching, it brings with it scam artists who hit the four-state area annually.

Consumers need to be vigilant about fraudulent home repair contractors and many other frauds.

Groups of scam artists, who work in the south during the winter months, move to the Midwest at the beginning of spring. Last year, Joplin-area residents were cheated out of thousands of dollars by fraudulent driveway repairmen and roofers.

Joplin police recommend doing business only with contractors who have a good reputation in the community. People should deal only with businesses licensed in the state.

There are other scams being perpetrated in Missouri and Kansas right now.

The Missouri attorney general's office is suing two Kansas City-area companies, contending they misrepresented the benefits of travel club memberships they sold for up to \$5,000 each.

Ultima Systems of Missouri and Premier International Cruise & Travel allegedly lied to consumers when they said the travel clubs would save them 50 percent or more, according to Attorney General Jay Nixon.

Persons selling anything door-to-door in Joplin are required to have a license. Ask to see it, but this is no guarantee that the product sold is of a good quality. Report suspicious sales people in your neighborhood to police.

Con artists last year obtained more than \$10,000 from Joplin residents using the "pigeon drop" scheme. In three separate instances, persons were approached in parking lots of grocery stores or fast food restaurants by persons flashing a huge bankroll. They tell the victim that they just found the money and want to share it.

As a show of faith, the victim is asked to withdraw several thousand dollars out of his or her own bank account. When the suspects examine it, they switch the money for a bundle of paper cut to money size and flee the area.

Businesses are now losing money on the Internet. Using credit card numbers stolen from the Internet or by telemarketing schemes, suspects are placing orders for everything from expensive electronics to gourmet food.

When someone puts their credit card on the Internet while their computer is not encrypted, they might as well be putting the number on a billboard, says Joplin Police Chief David Niebur.

Niebur says the Internet is also used by thousands of criminals who sell everything from phony stocks and bonds to pyramid schemes that promise big returns on money sent. □

HEALTH CARE

Nursing association generates interest

By KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

For some, the frightening prospect of residing in a nursing home will become reality later in life.

With the elderly becoming the fastest-growing segment of the population and the demand for people to care for them increasing, many wonder what type of person will be around to watch over these individuals.

Lori Porter was visiting her father in a nursing home when she saw what she considered a curious character. He was dressed in an army motif with combat boots, had a nose ring, and sported a Mohawk. After she left the home later that day, she commented to her mother about the eccentric boy, wondering who he was there to visit. Her mother told her that not only did he work there, but he had fed her father earlier that day.

"If in 1994 nursing homes were resigned to have to hire an individual like that, tell me this: Who's going to be there in 40 years to take care of us?" Porter asked.

Recognizing the need for qualified nurses in long-term health care facilities, she founded the National Association for Geriatric Nursing Assistants (NAGNA).

Porter said most people don't consider nursing assistant as a career because the job implies only negative aspects. She organized NAGNA to bring honor and motivation to nursing assistants.

"Even though you're proud of it, something affects you when your friends or people you meet curl their nose up at what you do," said Porter, executive director of NAGNA.

There is a strong need for certified nursing assistants (CNA). Porter said during the next six years, 600,000 new CNAs will be needed to keep up with the demand. She said nursing homes' falsely poor reputation has alienated prospective nursing assistants.

"I've been working in nursing homes since I was 17 and I don't know of a bad nursing home," Porter said. "Every nursing home I know of could use more certified nursing assistants, and that's what the true problems is."

The shortage of qualified nursing assistants is what drove Porter to add the NAGNA Training Institute (NTI) to her national nursing organization. The institution certifies nursing assistants to provide nursing homes with qualified NAs.

"CNAs are the basic tool for care-giving in long-term care facilities," said Charli Wilson, registered nurse and CNA instructor for NTI.

The first class session began March 3. Students spend their first two-and-a-half weeks in a classroom being educated about nursing. For the next two-and-a-half weeks

the students are experiencing the field firsthand at Christian Healthcare Center of Joplin under the supervision of an instructor.

"They are exposed to the nursing home environment little by little so they are not intimidated by it nor afraid," Porter said.

The final week brings the state board exam. Upon passing the final test, students secure a job at a NAGNA-associated nursing home in the area at the job fair. At the end of the week, the students graduate and begin working their new professions the following Monday.

NAGNA Training Institute graduates provide a welcome relief to a health-care industry in need of qualified, professional nursing assistants.

"They will know that our graduates have the positive attitude and proper training to give good care to the elderly people in the long-term care facilities," Wilson said. □

AREA FEATURE



Ray Grace poses with his champion pointer, 'Silver Ending', who won the 98th Annual Bird Dog Championships.

Former Regent, canine win
national championship title

By LINDA WHITED
STAFF WRITER

Pointer champion "Silver Ending" translated a storybook ending into a \$15,000 win Feb. 17 at the 98th Annual Bird Dog Championships, held in Grand Junction, Tenn. The Carthage canine outmatched the competition despite a last-minute trainer switch.

Seven-year-old "Dan" (the dog's call name) is owned by Ray Grace of Carthage.

Grace is a former member of Missouri Southern's Board of Regents.

"At the time Dan was supposed to be let loose (compete), I was laying in my hospital bed," said 58-year-old trainer Dave Grubb. "I hated not to be there."

Grubb suffered a stomach illness the night before competition.

Luckily, Grubb had already asked

stand-in trainer John Rex Gates "to ride out front," or in field trial lingo, observe "Silver Ending" perform. Therefore, Gates was already in place to take Grubb's place.

"John did an excellent job," Grubb said.

"I've tried to win the national championship for 32 years. The year I thought the dog was ready to win it, I had to go and get sick."

Doctors told Grubb a stress and diet-related illness was the cause of his five-day hospitalization.

"I said a prayer then [in the hospital] and I said a prayer during the time I knew he was running," Grubb said. "I remember with about 10 minutes left in the three-hour contest I said to myself, 'Dan, you've got to do it.'"

"Dan's" three-hour contest showed three coveys pointed. Three event judges selected winners based on style,

stamina, and ability to find the quail.

"Silver Ending's" brace mate "Borrowed Money" located a covey 30 minutes prior to contest end, earning the champion extra points.

"This is kind of awesome because I'm an old guy," said the 78-year-old Grace.

"This has been the one trial everybody wants to win, and I'm lucky enough to see it happen to one of my dogs."

Grace is the former owner of Grace Convenience Stores, now Grace Energy. He sold the oil outfit to his son-in-law, the current owner.

"This is a great honor because I don't think anyone in the four-state area has captured the national championship," Grace said. "Silver Ending's" photograph will appear on the cover of *American Field, The Sportsman's Newspaper of America* until February 1998 and a new dog wins the championship. □



INTERNET SERVERS

Server answers
public outcry

By AARON DESLATTE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Public concern over inadequate Internet access and support has sparked the formation of Joplin's newest Internet service provider. Talley Technologies, Inc. (TTI), a local computer networking company, has formed Talley Technologies Internet, Inc., primarily in response to the complaints of its customers regarding other local service providers.

"We had heard a lot of people upset and disgruntled with the Internet service providers that were in town," said Jason Talley, president of TTI.

TTI, which has been in existence for more than three years, dealt primarily with selling computers and constructing networks, which allowed face-to-face interaction with many Internet users concerning the problems they faced, Talley said.

"Basically, we were out in the real world hearing what people wanted, and we decided we could provide it," he said.

Shawn Beezley, supervisor of TTI's help desk, says strong technical support is the main objective of his department.

"When someone calls in, we handle it as soon as we can," he said. "We check up on it to make sure the problem did get fixed."

Talley Technologies Internet, Inc., currently offers technical support on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., but Beezley says the company is planning to expand to weekends in the near future. Expanding the help desk hours, however, is not the only goal the new company hopes to achieve.

"We want to be the largest provider in the area with the best technical support, the best reputation, and with the most happy customers," Talley said.

Talley Technologies Internet, Inc., currently offers two access plans.

The standard plan is \$17.95 per month, with an economy plan also available for \$95 per year. The primary difference between the two plans is user-to-modem ratio, Talley said.

"The national average on modem-to-user ratios is 10 to 1," he said. "Our standard plan is well beneath that. Obviously, our economy plan has a higher user-to-modem ratio, but we try to keep it as close to the national average as possible."

For more information, persons may contact Talley Technologies Internet, Inc., at 626-8777. □



RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT

Pizza by Stout plans to pour brews at English-style pub

By AARON DESLATTE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Twelve years ago while on a trip to England, Clark Bradley fell in love with pubs.

Today, he is building one.

Bradley, co-owner and manager of Pizza by Stout, is adding an English pub onto the popular Joplin restaurant building in hope of providing an alternative to the city's current bar scene.

Construction is scheduled to begin within 30 days.

"It (an English pub) is such a relaxing atmosphere," Bradley said. "People are looking for something to go to besides a rock'n'roll-type bar."

"It's a more intimate setting," said Joy Bradley, Clark's wife and co-owner.

"It is more of a place where you can sit down and converse than

your typical bar or tavern."

Pizza by Stout was first opened in 1978 by her father, Willard Stout, and, over the years, has maintained its reputation as a family restaurant.

Clark Bradley said he believes the addition of the pub will not conflict with the family environment.

"We want to keep the pub separate from the actual restaurant," he said.

"Our emphasis has always been on a family atmosphere, and we don't want the bar to interfere with the family restaurant."

The pub will add 625 square feet to the 4,000-square-foot facility, and will be located on the east side of the building.

"Basically we're tearing down our patio in the back to build the addition onto our present location," Clark Bradley said.

When completed, a walkway will

separate the pub from the main dining area.

Clark Bradley said he had always wanted to open an English pub but never saw the desire for one in the Joplin area.

His outlook changed in 1993 when Pizza by Stout successfully began to serve a growing number of imported and domestic micro brewery beers.

The micro brews were outselling the traditional beer, and, he said, the desire to build a pub suddenly became economically viable.

"People are definitely interested in trying new beers," Bradley said. "You just don't see the brand loyalty like you used to have. You have to change your selection all the time."

Once the Pizza by Stout pub is open, all alcoholic drinks or any beverage offered at the bar will still be available inside the restaurant. □



Joy Bradley, co-owner and operator of Pizza by Stout, pours a glass of one of the many imported draft beers the popular eatery provides.

Q&A with Gov. Mel Carnahan



Missouri's commander in chief addresses student involvement, state budget, political future, Challenge Scholarships, and Southern's international mission.

Governor talks about issues that affect Southern

Editor's note: Tammy Spicer, associate editor, received an exclusive interview with Gov. Mel Carnahan in his office on March 26. Here is the transcript of that interview.

Q: When someone mentions Missouri Southern State College to you, what do you think of?

Carnahan: I really think of Gov. Warren Hearnes, and that dates me, but he was the one who sponsored the four-year institutions in Joplin and St. Joseph; he did that in 1965. Obviously, beyond that, I think of it being one of our four-year institutions, I think of southwest Missouri, and now I think of your international education mission enhancement.

Q: Speaking of the international mission enhancement, several legislators have expressed some criticism that Missouri Southern was chosen as the institution to have an international focus. How would you address those concerns?

Carnahan: First of all, we have been trying to encourage our institutions to define a mission and area that they want to go into and prepare their students for. And so it has really been a movement over the last several years to encourage campuses to define a more specific mission. They then submit them to the legislature and to the administration for approval, and so that is the process that Missouri Southern has gone through. Now first of all, I like the international emphasis because there are just huge opportunities for Missouri in international trade and we really have been too slow to recognize that and prepare people to go into that area. So it is a proper emphasis, it is one that is needed, it is one that has a lot of opportunity for Missouri. Students who take that training will find some good jobs.

Q: You have been praised for your administration's emphasis on education. Where in that emphasis does higher education fall?

Carnahan: Well, I believe that we've got to have quality institutions all the way from

birth through graduation from college. I have shown that through my support for K-12, the outstanding schools act, and now I am of course moving onto the Challenge Scholarship. I am urging the legislature to use public support to encourage people to get the 13th and 14th year of education. And I have been a supporter of mission enhancement, as you have gone through at Missouri Southern, and building projects and other things for the public colleges and universities.

Q: You mentioned the Challenge Scholarship. Why was that project chosen, as opposed to other ways to enhance higher education?

Carnahan: I do it as a public statement that we recognize that more education is necessary.

A high school diploma is simply not adequate for hardly any jobs anymore. Even if the job does not require a four-year college degree, it will often require a year or two beyond high school of good math, good communication skills, and other technical training that will go with a particular job.

I just want to, first of all, make a statement that publicly we encourage more education and we will support people to get it. The other is that we want to have an incentive for people who might not go for more education that they will be helped with \$1,500 for a full-time student or they will be that much less in debt. We just think all the way around this is the way to do it.

The state of Georgia started this project a year or two ago. When I heard about it, I got more information and we thought about how we might design a program here.

The proposal I have is a very simple, straightforward program with virtually no new bureaucracy involved. It is going to be simple of administration.

We think it will accomplish its purposes without undue expansion of government bureaucracy to administer. Sometimes there is almost as much clutter around administering something as there is benefit.

Q: The Coordinating Board for Higher Education recommended a number of capital improvements for various state colleges and universities this year. How

much weight do you usually give to the CBHE's recommendations?

Carnahan: I give a lot of weight to their recommendations, but often the Coordinating Board recommends more than we have money to fund.

Almost a requisite for me to recommend a capital project is that it also be approved by the Coordinating Board.

But, if you look at a pattern, the administration often cannot do all of the Coordinating Board's recommendations. But they certainly form a basis for the projects that I chose.

Q: On the operating side of Missouri Southern's budget, you recommended only a 2% increase, barely enough to cover inflation. Did you take into consideration things like faculty salary increases?

Carnahan: I think our overall budget for Missouri Southern was 6.9 percent; we didn't have any that were as low as 2 percent.

We do take into account the need for salary adjustments. We had a very hard money squeeze for this budget.

It is hard to explain that to people, but we have two big drivers that made us frankly not have the money to do for higher education as we have been doing all the years I have been governor.

One is that we have very clearly hit the revenue limit of the so-called Hancock amendment and so all the revenues could not be spent. And the other is the cost of operating prisons as well as building some more.

And so these were two huge factors that diminished our disposable, discretionary money for recommendation to the legislature.

I know if I was in an institution of higher education I would have been disappointed with the recommendation that I made. I was disappointed with it as well. We had to fight to get it up that high. That is how tight our money was for our planning this year.

Q: When you leave the office of governor, have you thought about future political aspirations?

Carnahan: I suppose I've mildly thought about them, but I haven't made any decisions about what I am going to do.

I very likely will want to keep active. I have been in political office and gone back to the private sector several times in my life; this time I wouldn't expect it to be from a political defeat.

But I was defeated for political offices and I went back to my law practice and my civic involvement in my community in Rolla. It has always been very satisfying to me, so I know that there is another life, other than the political life. But I simply haven't chosen what I will be doing after my second term as governor.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to say to the students of Missouri Southern?

Carnahan: I would like to say that I would hope they would be more involved in politics.

I hope they would read your reporting about what's going on in state government, that they would consider coming as an intern, that they perhaps even go and volunteer in a campaign, whether it is for a candidate that they believe in on the local level or statewide.

That they get in and get involved and sort of give of themselves and get in the process and sort of demystify it for themselves, so that they won't think that it is something that is just over there that isn't a part of my life or I can't affect it.

Because individual opinion and votes matter and individual action and participation can matter a lot. I believe that.

I grew up in a political family. We always talked politics at our table; we had more politics than food at our table.

My father ran for office the first time when I was 8 years old. He was elected to Congress when I was 10. And he was on the ballot virtually every two years until I was married and working on my own.

So I know I don't come from a normal family and that is not the way almost everybody grows up. But it has made me really believe in participation. And that it matters and that it makes a difference.

And for someone with that background now to be able to be governor and be able to direct some of the policies that raise the quality of education, to help our colleges and universities, to improve the health of our people, to work on safety and crime issues, to work on stimulating business and creating jobs in the state.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Bill proposes ban on any human cloning research

A state lawmaker is pushing a bill to ban state money for human cloning. Rep. Marilyn Edwards Pavia (R-House Springs) is the author of a four-line proposal which would prohibit the use of state taxpayer dollars for research with respect to the cloning of a human person.

"Attempts to clone a human being would go far beyond standard medical research," said Pavia. "The discussion of possible human cloning is a much deeper ethical and moral issue. Passage of this bill would give us, as citizens, time to explore all the implications of such research."

The bill has nearly 30 republican co-sponsors and was introduced last month.

"Just two short months ago, cloning was just something we read about in science fiction books," said Pavia. "Now, this morning, I hear a radio story about the owners of a race horse who are considering cloning the horse because it has been unable to reproduce by normal methods."

The legislation to ban state funds for human cloning mirrors federal efforts by U.S. Sen. Kit Bond, who is the author of a bill to ban federal funding of research in human cloning.

ICI Explosives permit receives modification

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will modify the hazardous waste management facility permit issued to ICI Explosives Environmental Company near Joplin. The facility is located at Highway AA and Newman Road, east of Duenweg, within Jasper County. Their current permit allows the company to treat, store, and incinerate reactive hazardous wastes.

This modification is a result of an appeal that was filed after issuance of the original permit in 1991. This appeal resulted in a final decision by the Missouri Court of Appeals, Southern District, that afforded DNR the opportunity to address, under current laws and present circumstances, the permit modifications attempted by the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Commission in its order dated Jan. 20 and May 21, 1993.

The changes cover a variety of issues, including transportation, emergency response, owner and operator status, waste feed procedures, operating record maintenance, waste analysis and financial assistance.

Citizens can review information on the changes at the Joplin Public Library.

Nixon urges Congress to ensure victims rights

Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon has called on Congress to enact a federal law that would ensure the rights of victims in the Oklahoma City bombing case to both observe the trial and testify in the penalty phase.

"There is a need for immediate attention to strengthen the federal laws due to recent court rulings that prevent the victims from observing the trial and participating in the penalty phase," Nixon said.

Nixon, who has proposed a similar law for Missouri, and other attorneys general meeting in Washington for their annual spring meeting presented a letter of support for the proposed legislation.

Students research politics

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — When most students work on a research paper, they turn to the library for help. A group of political science students recently went the extra mile, literally, and took a trip to the State Capitol.

"As a course in state government, I really feel the students need to see all the different aspects of government," said Annetta St.Clair, associate professor of political science and organizer of the trip for her state government class, "the legislature, the administration, and the different departments."

In order to better help the students understand state government, each student is required to do a research project on one of the state departments in conjunction with the Capitol visit, according to St. Clair.

"I chose to research the Department of Education," said



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

While visiting the Capitol, Cynthia Curry, senior political science major (left), and Kelly Cole, sophomore political science major, look at exhibits.

Bruce Brigden, secondary education major. "I did a lot of research on the Internet before we came up here."

Brigden wasn't alone in his researching efforts. Each of the 14 students who went on the trip spent several hours preparing for the March 24-25 trip.

"I had the opportunity to interview Sen. [Marvin] Singleton (R-Seneca) in Carthage before we came up," said Cynthia Curry, senior political science major.

While in Jefferson City, the group had the opportunity to meet with Lt. Gov. Roger Wilson, State Treasurer Bob Holden and Gov. Mel Carnahan.

"Meeting the governor was the high point for me," Curry said. "I even got to ask him a question

about my research topic."

One unique aspect of the trip was students were allowed to tour the Jefferson City Correctional Center, something not available to most Capitol city visitors, according to St. Clair.

"The prison was really interesting," said Brooke Stearns, senior political science major. "It rates right below the governor."

The tour brought the students face to face with prisoners. They were even allowed into the maximum security area where Plexi-glas was all that separated them, according to Stearns.

"It was a huge eye-opener," she said.

"You see things on TV that almost glamorize prisons. The cells are a lot smaller in real life."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

New laptop computers aid legislative process

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Each member of the House of Representatives now has a complete research staff on the chamber floor, because of laptop computers provided for every state representative.

"There were basically two factors that brought this about," Gene Rose, Senate communications director, said.

"One was to save paper and the other was to give legislators a greater understanding of what is happening on the House floor."

The network system has some of the same information available on the Internet, such as, bill text, summaries, and current status.

Additionally, the representatives can look at all the amendments brought before the chamber.

Internet users cannot see any amendments until the House Journal is printed the following day, according to Rose.

All House members will have equal and immediate access to legislative information, allowing lawmakers to make more informed decisions on House bills and amendments, according to the speaker.

The laptop computers are property of the House and were purchased through last year's appropriations money.

The computers, which have no Internet or electronic capabilities, must remain in the chamber at all times, Rose said.

The laptops are part of a pilot program started last year to move the House toward an automated or paperless chamber, according to Rose.

On the Senate side, Dan Berendzen, operations director, said while there has been some discussion of developing a similar system, he doesn't foresee it happening in the near future.

Last session's House Automation and Internet Committee, chaired by Rep. Larry Thomason (D-Kennett) was instrumental in bringing about this development.

"I appreciate the hard work of Rep. Thomason, his committee, the Chief Clerk and the House staff in working toward an automated chamber," Gaw said.

"The dedication of those individuals has resulted in a positive step forward in the House being able to successfully use the tools available in the new information age."

The lady from Calloway

Floor leader duties keep Backer busy

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. —

At 5-foot-6, the 47-year-old woman in the pink suit with matching shoes at first appears a little out of place surrounded by the majority of males in the House of Representatives, but within a few moments it is evident that she fits right in.

Rep. Gracia Yancey Backer (D-New Bloomfield) has been serving in the House since 1982 and is now the highest-ranking woman in the history of the House.

But as she stops and talks with everyone from members of the maintenance staff to the governor's wife, Jean Carnahan, it appears she is just a woman who really enjoys her job.

On Tuesday, March 25, her day, as usual, began early with a 7 a.m. breakfast held by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. While Backer munched on two biscuits, she also took the time to introduce one of her student interns to Hallmark Corporation executives, as they were the group sponsoring the event and her intern will be graduating in May with marketing aspirations.

After the breakfast, Backer made a run to the store for personal necessities before heading to the Capitol to start a normal day on the downhill slide of the legislative session.

Heading to the 'Hill'

The office on the third floor that houses the majority floor leader and her staff is a crowded one, with a secretary, administrative assistant, two full-time college interns, and one part-time intern, but no one seems to mind. In fact, the group seems to relish the closeness they share.

When Backer arrives to work, she immediately heads into her office where two large windows overlook the Missouri River and several of the memorials surrounding the Capitol. Several donkey figurines in a bookcase and family photos on the wall aptly show the two sides of Backer. With large plants near the windows and nature sketches on display, the office takes a comfortable, outdoor atmosphere.

But Backer seems almost oblivious to the decor as she digs right into her first project of the day, an amendment to one of the appropriations bill being presented during morning session. Her efforts were interrupted several times, and she even took over her secretary's desk to type a letter that had to be rushed to the Senate side of the Capitol.

As floor leader, Backer is responsible for setting the calendar for the House of Representatives. With Easter break quickly approaching, one of Backer's priorities for the day was to perfect the 12 appropriations bills so they could be sent to the Senate floor.

"Setting the calendar requires a lot of time management," said Richard McIntosh, assistant to Backer. "We have to know which bills are possibly controversial and understand how long each bill



Backer Quick Facts

■ She was born in 1950. She and her husband, Mike, have one son, Justin.

■ She was first elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1982, and has been the highest-ranking woman since 1990.

■ She is on the following committees: Rules, Joint Rules, Bills Perfected and Printed (chair), Banks and Financial Institutions, Elections, and Motor Vehicle and Traffic Regulations.

TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

will take on the floor."

At 9 a.m., her morning rush is interrupted for a House leadership meeting in Speaker Steve Gaw's office. She makes it back to her own office just 15 minutes before morning session begins at 10 a.m.

Round 'em up

When the bell rings, Backer heads to her spot at the back of the House floor, where she can monitor the legislative body. As the other representatives file into the room, Backer's desk seems to be a stopping point for most.

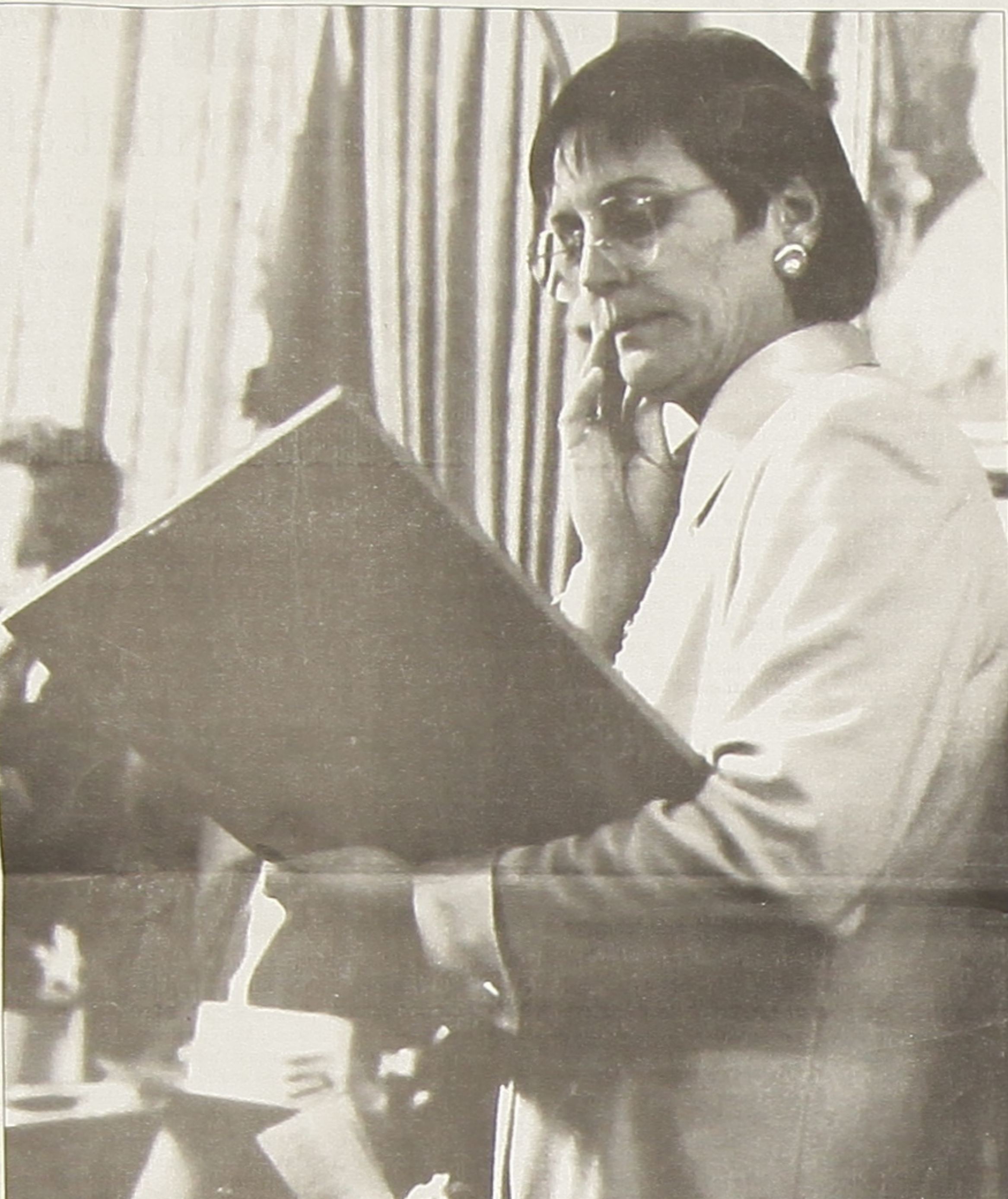
After a few minutes have passed, Backer catches the eye of the speaker, who is standing in front of the chamber, and does a "round 'em up" motion above her head.

At that, the speaker calls the House to order and the session begins.

A group of fourth graders was Backer's first order of business for the day. The students, from her district in Fulton, were on a field trip to the Capitol and she introduced them to the House as her visitors.

For the rest of the session, Backer is called the "Lady from Calloway," as representatives are referred to by the counties they represent.

When the legislators arrived at their positions at the start of session, they found merchandise bags of products from the city of St. Joseph. Among the items given to the House members was a can of cat food. One of Backer's many



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

With a careful eye, Rep. Gracia Backer (D-New Bloomfield) inspects one of the framed House resolutions that was presented to the nominees of the fourth annual DeVerne Lee Calloway Award at a reception sponsored by The Women Legislators of Missouri.

missions for the morning was to collect the cans from non-cat owners for her own pet, a Himalayan named Fritz.

Later in the morning, after accumulating many cans of the feline food, the Lady from Calloway had the opportunity to submit her appropriations bill amendment to the House.

After a short debate on the floor, the amendment was adopted.

During the morning session, Backer spent much of her time talking with members either at her desk or visiting with them at their desks. Her assistant also spent the morning circulating with members and discussing legislation.

The Lady from Calloway began munching on some crackers when it became obvious that working through lunch was eminent. Working through lunch, the legislators were released by Backer at 1:30 p.m. with six of the 12 appropriations bills perfected.

The legislators were told the bell would ring again at 2 p.m. and that session would begin promptly 10 minutes after the bell.

When Backer returned to her office, she already had two people waiting for her attention, after which she headed to the basement of the Capitol for a committee meeting for motor vehicle and traffic regulations. When she arrived at the hearing room, the meeting was over, with only three representatives remaining. After discussing the group's decisions with the

men, she returned to her office.

At 2 p.m. she reminded the speaker's office to ring the bell, and she spent the remaining 10 minutes going over her schedule for the next day.

"We have really got to get through these appropriations bills," Backer said as she shuffled through piles of papers on her desk.

Still going strong

Backer, who is known for her ability to keep the legislators in order, announced an absence of quorum, just a short time after the session resumed.

A quorum is equal to half of the House members and is required for a floor session.

When a quorum did arrive, Backer asked for a roll call because she wanted everyone to be present for appropriations bills.

The House continued to debate the various appropriations bills until nearly 6 p.m., when session was adjourned on a motion by the Lady from Calloway, even though three of the 12 bills had not yet been perfected.

"We are sure going to have a full day tomorrow," Backer said.

Girls' night out

After a quick stop off at her office, Backer headed to the parking garage and her brand-new white Firebird. She drove the short jaunt to the governor's mansion, where The Women Legislators of Missouri were holding a reception and awards ceremony for the DeVerne Lee Calloway Award.

Calloway was the first African-American woman to serve in the Missouri House of Representatives.

There was a full house at the mansion with standing room only for late-comers.

Backer didn't go through the food line, instead taking the opportunity to visit with everyone, including the prisoners who work at the mansion.

When there was some confusion about the location of a nominee's plaque, Backer broke the quiet tension with her ever-present humor.

"I sure hope you weren't in a rush to go anywhere tonight," she said, eliciting a laugh from the previously uncomfortable crowd.

When the audience clapped politely for the award winner, Backer's enthusiasm broke through with loud cheering, causing Jean Carnahan to smile in her direction.

When the ceremony wound down at 8 p.m. Backer's day was still in full throttle. She headed out to her Firebird and raced back to the Capitol.

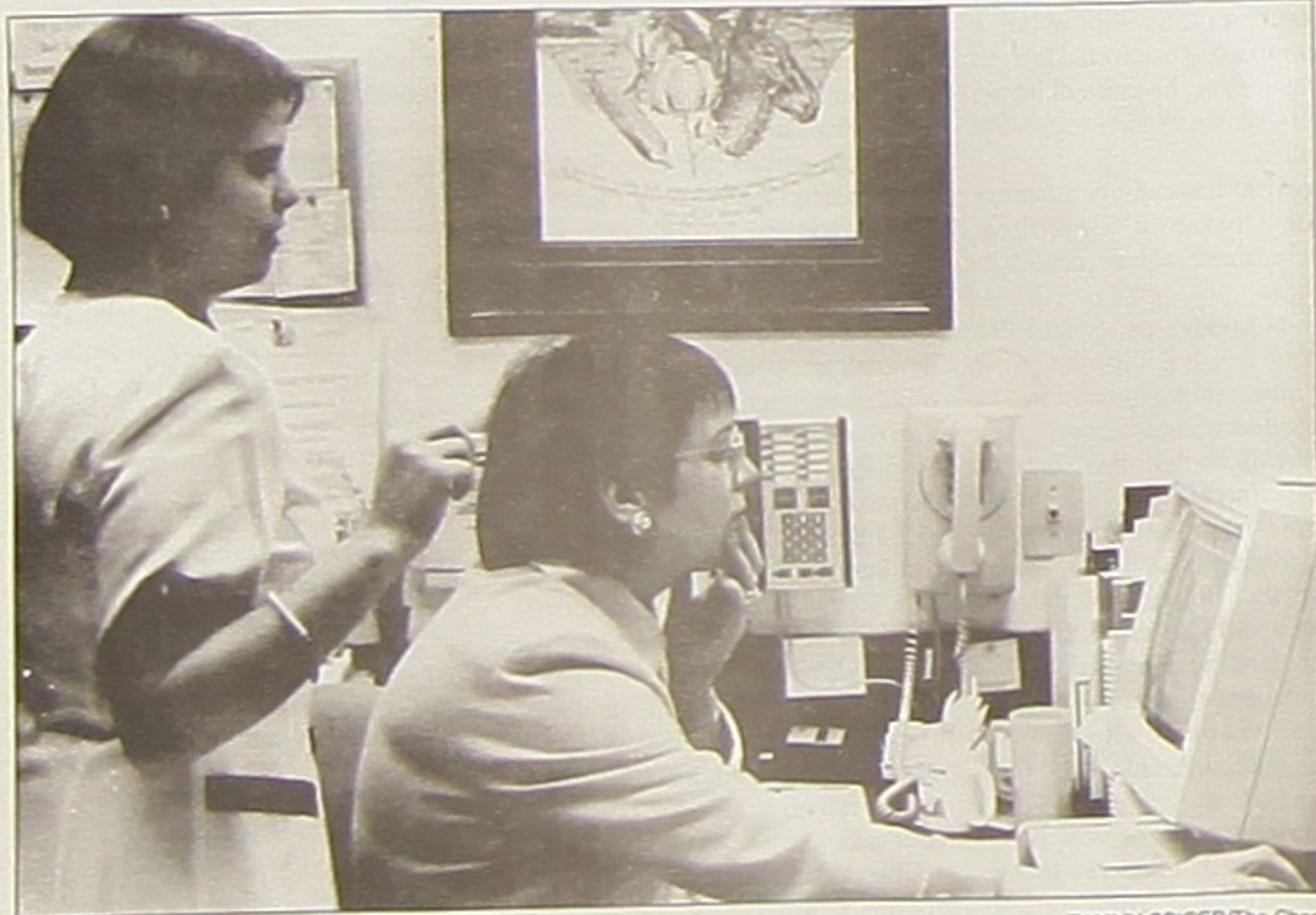
At 8:15, she burst through the doors of the elections committee meeting, which was already in full swing. With an exaggerated salute to the committee chairperson, she took her seat beside Rep. Beth Long (R-Lebanon), who also happened to be in pink.

The two women exchanged quiet whispers and giggles throughout the meeting. It was evident they usually are in cohorts by the matching doodling on their paper nameplates.

After listening to bill sponsors and witnesses for two hours, the group held an executive session and sent one bill on to the speaker's office. With that completed, the committee called it quits at 10 p.m.

The Lady from Calloway got back into her Firebird and took off into the night, bringing to a close another day at the Capitol, 15 hours after it began.

With all the pressures of being House majority floor leader in addition to normal legislative responsibilities, those pink shoes of hers would sure be hard to fill. □



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

After taking over her secretary's desk, House Majority Floor Leader Gracia Backer (D-New Bloomfield) types a spur-of-the-moment letter to a senator with help from her college intern Stephanie McFarland.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Lab helps local law crack down on drug traffic

New additions alleviate overcrowding problem

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With its state-of-the-art technology, Missouri Southern's crime lab serves students, the Joplin community, and 50 law enforcement agencies throughout parts of Missouri and Kansas.

The Regional Crime Laboratory, a state-controlled testing lab, provides a two-pronged benefit, according to Bob Terry, head of the criminal justice department.

"The main benefit is the community service," he said. "Another is that it allows the instructors to bring new techniques and technology to the classroom."

Dr. Philip Whittle, director of the crime lab, said the lab performs multiple analytical services.

"We develop fingerprints and assist in the col-

lection of evidence and assessment of the crime scene," he said.

The first analysis was performed in November 1971, but the lab was officially opened in January 1972. Whittle said the lab is not open to students.

Whittle said drug testing makes up 70 percent of the analyses completed in the lab.

He also said he is sometimes asked to help dismantle methamphetamine labs.

"I have helped in the collection of drug samples of the actual finished product, or the precursor to the final product," Whittle said.

"We do drug tests for the police department and coroners, and we perform analyses for the hospitals, obtaining samples from suspects who may have overdosed on drugs. We test between 400 and 450 samples a year."

Other jobs executed in the crime lab include forensic serology (the typing of blood and other body fluids and tissues), DNA typing for rape cases, and firearm exams.

"Sometimes we are furnished with a gun and asked if it could have been the weapon used in the crime," Whittle said. "We also examine bul-

lets and cartridge casings taken from a body."

Technology at the lab enables cartridge-casing searches to be performed in a 10-state region.

"After the first of the year we were able to search for bullets online at any time and compare them with ours," he said. "We are also able to do paint comparisons on hit and run incidents."

With the new additions, Whittle said the lab will be able to alleviate the cramped quarters by expanding the present arrangement.

"We will spread out with the new addition," he said. "We are scheduled to get two existing classrooms next to the crime lab. We thought it was more practical to expand."

He said as it stands, the staff of four is working in an area designed for only two. All money used to operate the crime lab comes from within the department and the state.

"We are not using the College's funds," he said. "There is a substantial amount of input by the College, but the \$225,000 budget comes mostly from contributions from the agencies we serve." □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart
Inspecting all kinds of evidence is just part of the job at the Regional Crime Laboratory. Melvin Monet, senior criminal justice major, looks at some negatives.

STUDENT LIFE BEAT

What is ALTERNATIVE?

Choices define life for some at College

By SCOTT FRANCIS
STAFF WRITER

Al•ter•na•tive n. 1. A choice between two things: often loosely applied to more than two. 2. Either of the two or more things to be chosen. 3. The remaining choice. — adj. Affording or implying a choice between two (or sometimes more) things.

The dictionary is normally a good place to go for the exact meaning of a word. You can usually find every definition in common usage. However, there are sometimes when the dictionary doesn't come close to conveying the whole meaning of a word.

"The main concept of the 'alternative' lifestyle is not rebellion against society, tradition, or rules in general," said Johnnie Duree. "It's just an attempt to live in a way that is the most comfortable and natural for you."

Duree, whose friends call him "Raven," is currently "taking time off from school," but he spends several hours a week hanging out with his many friends from Southern.

"Society has terms, rules, and expectations that we deal with every day," he said.

"What people term 'alternative' is really just a different way of dealing with those limits. The traditional way is to try to fit into the mold that society expects you to fill and being alternative is really just taking those expectations a little less seriously, not viewing everything as a life-or-death matter. It's being able to laugh at difficult situations and take life and people with a grain of salt."

Jack Finley, freshman undecided major, doesn't really consider himself to be alternative.

"The question is, 'Alternative to what?' Every style of life is alternative when compared to others; everything is a subculture. Cowboys, gangstas, jocks, preps, Latinos, internationals



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart
To some it's cool, to others it's goofy. However, the alternative movement is in full swing across the nation. Kim Crosswhite, junior sociology major, and her dreadlocks are a part of it.

BOARD OF REGENTS

Leon expects 300 students to go abroad

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

More than 100 students and 30 faculty members will travel abroad this year, said College President Julio Leon during a meeting of the Missouri Southern Board of Regents Friday morning.

"That is essentially the process we think is going to generate the momentum necessary to develop an international mission," Leon said. "Our goal in the next two or three or four years is to have as many as 300 students participating."

One of the first items on the agenda at the meeting was welcoming the newest Board member, Loretta Wilcox.

The \$5.8 million Mills Anderson Justice Center addition construction is on schedule with the completion slated for mid-November.

"They are making real good progress," said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president. "We can just hope there aren't any bad weather conditions."

Leon updated regents on where the budget for Southern stands at the State Capitol.

"There was some talk about taking some of the construction money away from the prisons and putting it other places," he said. "But now it appears as if what the governor recommended is what we are going to get."

An update on the strategic issues planning committee was presented by Tiede.

The group has narrowed the study to three main areas in an environmental scanning model — external factors, internal factors, and market.

External factors include changing populations, public funds, state mandates, distance learning, and the pace of technological change.

Admissions, retention, low cost, and the international mission are some of the internal environmental factors.

The Southern market is broken down into five categories:

1. Degree-seeking students vs. lifelong learners.
2. Traditional vs. non-traditional students.
3. Commuter vs. resident students.
4. International students.
5. Employers.

"The committee is focusing on what we should be doing, not how to do it," Tiede said. "That will come later."

At the next meeting of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, Southern will be asked to make a presentation on the current status and future plans for its international mission focus, Leon said.

In preparation for that meeting, Leon spoke to the regents about such issues as the number of faculty and students who are traveling and studying internationally, the Spanish language camp, the Harry and Berniece Gockel International Symposium, and the College's excitement and involvement as Hong Kong will become a part of China later this year.

One of the final orders of business for the group was to accept the resignation of Richard Humphrey, director of admissions, who has been a Southern employee since 1968. □



Leon

STUDYING ABROAD

Summer excursion sending 16 south of the border

By DEBORAH SOLOMON
MANAGING EDITOR

Summer school will have a different flavor for 16 Missouri Southern students.

The students, along with Pedro Talavera, assistant professor of Spanish, will travel to Mexico June 2-30 to study at the Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolas de Hidalgo in Morelia, Michoacan.

The group will stay with host families the first three weeks in Morelia, Michoacan. They will then spend two nights in Guanajuato and four nights in Mexico City before returning to the United States.

"This is Missouri Southern's own study abroad pro-

gram," Talavera said. "It is similar to the Oxford trip, but it isn't through another school."

"Another difference is the students will be living with families instead of in dorms with each other."

This is the first year for the summer in Mexico program, which is organized in coordination with the Experimento de Convivencia Internacional, a group that has assisted cultural exchanges throughout the world.

"We have 16 Missouri Southern students, two Pittsburg State University students, two high school students, and a local high school Spanish teacher going," Talavera said. "We had such a good response that we had to close the registration early."

Angela Dean, senior Spanish major, said she wanted to

go to experience not only the education but also the culture.

"You can only grasp so much here in Joplin," she said. "I chose to stay with a family who does not speak English so I could get the full flavor of Mexico."

While living with the families, the students will attend classes taught by instructors from the University for the three weeks. They also will attend several lectures in different cities during their stay.

"I have been to Mexico several times, but not to study," Dean said. "I think the biggest educational experience will be living among families rather than at the university. The lectures will be good learning experiences, too, but not like absorbing through a family environment." □

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What's
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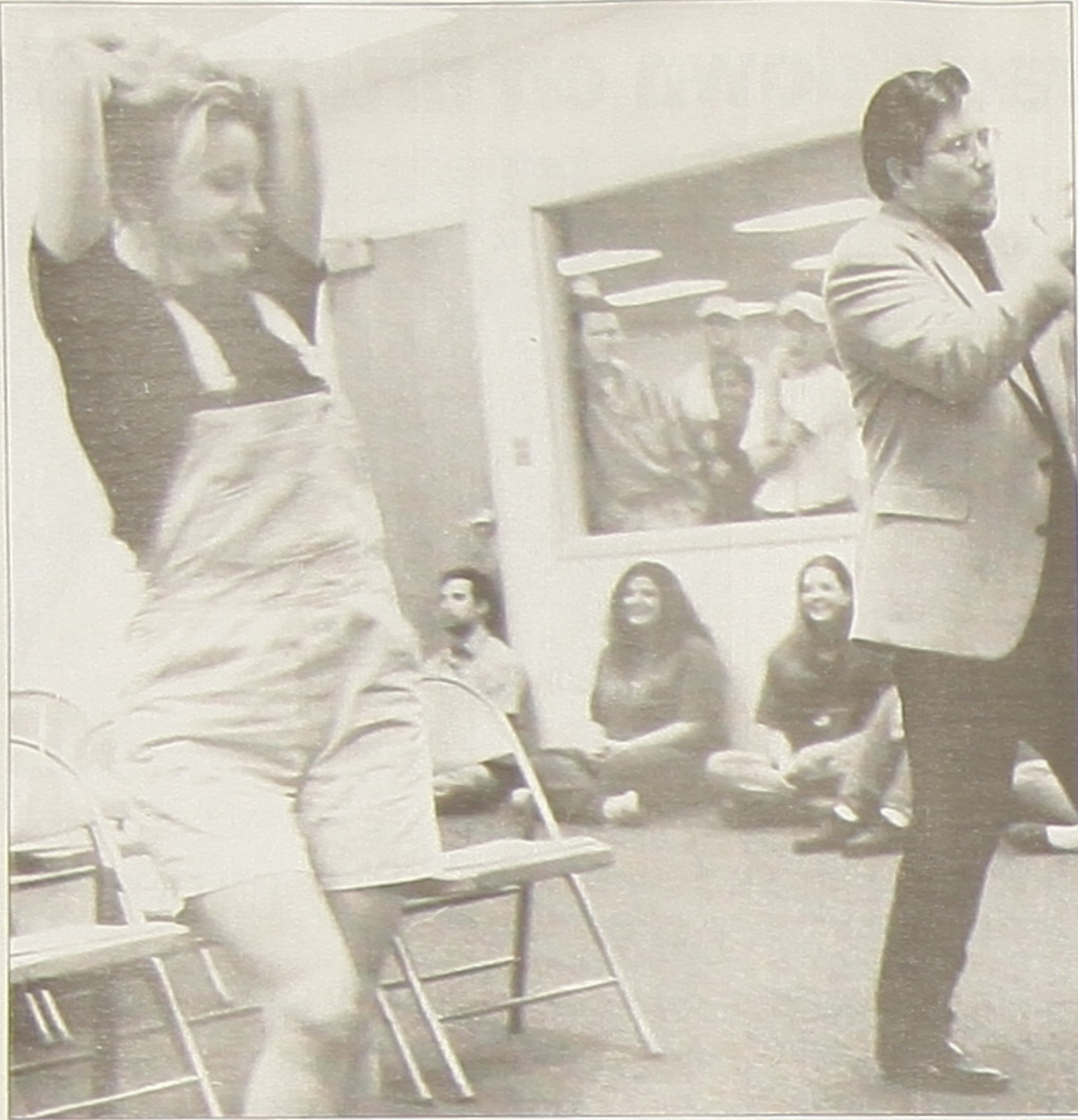


ARTS ETC.:

Madrigal mania sweeps through the College as the chamber choir and a few drama students put on a feast of fun, food, and mayhem.....page 4B



BUST-A-MOVE



Raven (right), a hypnotist, put many students under his spell during a performance in the SLC Tuesday, March 11.

MISSOURI SOUTHERN TELEVISION

Royals toss KGCS out of television game

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The battle to telecast professional baseball continues for Missouri Southern's KGCS-LP television station, as negotiations are on the table concerning rights to televise Kansas City Royals baseball for 1997.

The station was hit with a similar case in March, when Bud Sports announced that the St. Louis Cardinals had decided not to give KGCS the right to air its games.

"As it stands, we are not sure if we will have either one," said Judy Stiles, general manager of KGCS.

Stiles said KGCS had received verbal assurance that would allow the station to televise the Royals games, but later discovered otherwise.

"I called the Royals for scheduling information, and they said the situation had changed," she said.

Derek Lawless, director of syndication for Prime Sports Southwest, distributor of the Royals games, admitted he had given the green light to air the games prematurely.

"I approached KGCS before I had knowledge of the situation and offered the games without knowledge of the circumstances surrounding Joplin," he said. "Once I spoke with Rocky Mountain Sports and Fox Sports Midwest, it didn't make sense to offer the games to a broadcast station in an area where there is no cable coverage."

Lawless, a representative of Rocky Mountain Sports, rights holder of the Royals, said the amount of coverage is one of the main deciding factors when it comes to distributing airing privileges to television stations.

"Our goal is to have 100 percent coverage in a particular market for the team we are syndicating or representing," he said. "We can't achieve that if there is no cable coverage in that market."

"Cable coverage is so important to us; it allows us to maximize distribution of games for each team."

Stiles said the situation with the Royals games is a ploy for Fox Sports Midwest, the cable television rights holder, to enter the cable system.

"They are trying to become an existing cable network," Stiles said. "The Cardinals said unless Fox gets cable clearance, they won't let us carry the games; it is basically all or none."

Lawless said negotiations are being made between Cablecom of Joplin and Fox Sports Midwest to reach a cable agreement.

The baseball season opened Tuesday, but according to Lawless, "the agreement doesn't have to be in place before the season starts."

"It is still possible, if an agreement is reached, that KGCS will be able to air the games," he said. "We would love for them to be able to." □

AMERISERVE

Former food director
to stand trial May 1

Butkievich faces charges
of pilfering \$12,900 in sales

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Edward Butkievich, former food service director for AmeriServe, is slated to stand trial May 1 on charges of pilfering \$12,900 in food sales revenue.

Associate Judge Richard Copeland resolved during a preliminary hearing March 13 that Butkievich, 53, would be tried on a felony stealing count.

Butkievich was dismissed from AmeriServe, Missouri Southern's contracted food service provider, in November after an audit revealed a large sum of missing cash from funds generated from the selling of meal tickets, as well as discrepancies over the number of tickets sold.

Formal charges were filed against Butkievich on Jan. 9.

During the preliminary hearing, Scott Watson, Butkievich's attorney, pointed out that several other AmeriServe employees had access to the revenue generated through meal tickets.



Butkievich

Witnesses for the prosecution were unable to attribute the amount of missing cash to Butkievich.

Richard Liebman, president of AmeriServe, acknowledged that he was not sure if Butkievich had stolen the money.

"I don't know if he did it or not," said Tonie Haslip, AmeriServe's administrative assistant at Southern, during a query by the defense. "I just know I didn't."

Haslip testified that she confronted Butkievich about the cash shortage in August. Later, she brought the matter to Bob Buckley, assistant manager for AmeriServe under Butkievich.

"I never accused Butkievich of stealing anything," Haslip said.

The only explanation the witnesses could suggest was perhaps the missing funds disappeared from an AmeriServe safe, of which only Butkievich and Haslip knew the combination.

Meanwhile, awaiting his upcoming trial, Butkievich pours himself into his new entrepreneurial interest, Main Street Cafe, a restaurant he recently opened.

Butkievich limited his comments to his plea of innocence and his business.

He said the restaurant business has not been affected by the publicity his case has received.

In reference to his case, Butkievich said, "All I can say is, I pleaded not guilty." □

ALTERNATIVE: A different culture

From page 1B

everyone belongs to a distinct subculture of some kind," Finley said.

"Why can't people get past a few earrings or dyed hair or black clothes? It's not really any 'weirder' than chaps, spurs, boots, and a cowboy hat, or even a three-piece suit. It's all wrapped up in the meaning our society places on appearance."

"It's human nature to want to classify everyone; to separate people into little groups, each with its own set of limits and expectations," Raven said. "But that's really just sloppy or lazy thinking. Alternative is a way of challenging people to really examine their thought patterns and prejudices, to get past the superficial appearances that people judge others by."

"Looking different is a good screen, kind of like a personal filter," said Scott Eoi, freshman history major. "If someone is too shallow or too lazy to put out the effort to look at me as a person, regardless of my appearance, chances are I don't want much to do with them."

"At the same time, however, people do dress as they want to be perceived, even if

only subconsciously. So while judging by appearances may be inaccurate, appearance can give a good idea of a person's attitude and outlook on life."

Eoi also said trying to fit people into an "alternative" category based on looks, music, or interests is inaccurate, because it's too broad and vague.

"Just saying someone is alternative is like saying they're human, or weird, or American, or different. It's a generalization that leaves too many things unsaid," he noted.

"People have a set of characteristics they think alternative means," Raven said. "It usually consists of music, rebellion, black clothes, dyed hair, body piercing, drugs, and an interest in the occult, among other things. But that's like saying because a guy likes the color pink he's gay, or because someone wears gang colors and a beeper he's a drug dealer. Any or none of the criteria people have for us may apply, depending on the individual."

"That's the important thing to remember," Finley said. "No matter what someone may look like, he or she is a person just like you, and all people are different. Everyone's alternative." □

In the spirit of the China semester next fall, the Soc 301: Sociology of Religion course will be replaced by Soc 298: China Culture and Civilization at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, according to Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology.

—ADVERTISEMENT—

OFFICIAL NOMINATION FOR OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The following rules apply:

To be eligible, faculty must be full-time, be teaching at least six credit hours a semester, and must be in at least the third year of teaching at Missouri Southern State College.

Name of Teacher Nominated:

Semester: SPRING

Department:

Academic Year: 1996-97

Please state the reasons you have nominated this fine teacher. Describe his or her qualities as extensively as you wish. (Use an additional page if necessary.)

(Signature)

If you are a student or member of the Alumni, please identify the class or classes you have taken from this professor.

(Class)

Forms should be completed and placed in the campus mailbox 110 which is located in Office Services, Heames Hall Room 106, no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1997. (If you are mailing a nomination form from off-campus, please include mailbox 110 in address to Office Services.)

SOUTHERN THEATRE

Modification saves run of 'The Sea Gull'

Guest director aids in latest production

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Despite the loss of the director to an illness, the production of *The Sea Gull* will continue with modification. The director, David Waggoner, a former student, became ill and was hospitalized with kidney stones prior to spring break. He underwent surgery to have the stones removed March 13. Waggoner directed *Orphans* last year. The production was one of

five shows chosen to be performed at regional competition in St. Louis.

The Sea Gull was to appear April 23-26. The performance has now been modified and will run April 25-26.

On April 23-24, three student-directed one-act plays will be performed by Dr. Jay Fields' Directing II class.

"We owe it to our students, not just in the theatre department but on campus, to offer something in the time slot," said Fields, director of Southern Theatre.

Waggoner said he had been ill since the start of the semester but did not know what was wrong until

a few days prior to spring break.

"We did not know the extent of David's illnesses," Fields said. "We did not want to panic and do the wrong thing too soon."

Seven scenes will be performed from the play and tied together with a narrator. Instead of one of the people from the theatre department taking over the production, an acting coach from New York will take the director's chair.

Stanley Harrison, a graduate of the Yale School of Drama with a master's in acting, was to play the role of Sorin in the production. Due to his knowledge of the play and his having directed the play on Broadway, he is best suited to

take over the performance.

Fields said the students will benefit from being directed by a person who directs Broadway shows.

"None of us (faculty) felt we were ready to jump in," Fields said. "If it had been any contemporary show, we could have kept doing it."

The play was written by Russian Anton Chekhov. Harrison's knowledge of Chekhov drama adds to his ability to work with this play. Harrison is to conduct six classes in Chekhovian drama from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday in Webster Hall auditorium.

Persons interested in Harrison's classes may contact Fields at 625-9393. □

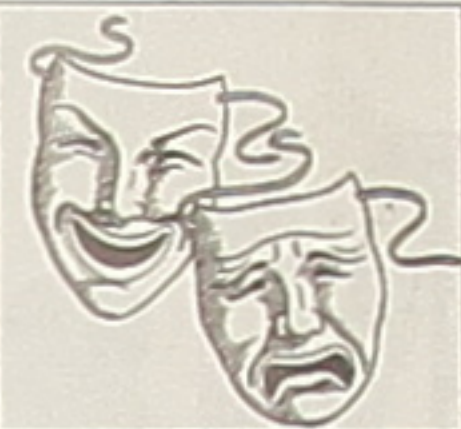
Upcoming PLAYS

'The Sea Gull'

DATE: April 25-26
PLACE: Taylor Performing Arts Center, Missouri Southern State College
ADMISSION: \$1 adults, \$50 children

Coming ATTRACTIONS

On Campus



Theatre

■ April 25-26—Anton Chekhov's 'The Sea Gull' in Taylor Auditorium

TAYLOR AUDITORIUM
April 10—Jazz Band Concert
April 30—Symphonic Band Concert
May 1—Hanover Band Concert - Nicholas McGegan
MATTHEWS AUDITORIUM
Foreign Film
April 8—Village Teacher
WEBSTER AUDITORIUM
April 11—Suzuki Violin Students & Keynote Club Piano Recital
April 13—Joplin Piano Teachers - Honors Recital
April 22—Faculty Recital - Dr. Henry Jones
April 29—Gloria Jardon's Piano Students Recital
Concert
May 4—Jazz in Joplin - Trio Grande

Joplin



Spiva

■ Through April 27—Spiva Annual art exhibit in Joplin

THE BYPASS
624-9095
April 4—The Bel-Airs
April 5—The Blues Blasters & Rhythm Station
SPIVA CENTER FOR THE ARTS
623-0183
March 14-April 27—Spiva Annual to be held in Joplin
MEMORIAL HALL
623-3254
Apr. 12—Sawyer Brown with Crystal Bernard & Kevin Sharp
GUITARS & CADILLACS
659-9870
April 7—Gary Hoey
April 8—Fabulous Thunderbirds
May 13—Little River Band
SKATEPARK
April 12—V.D., U.S.M.C., Initial Detonation and Satan's Icecream Truck

Kansas City

KEMPER ARENA
April 4—Vince Gill and Bryan White
April 12—Phil Collins
ARROWHEAD STADIUM
May 19—U2

Springfield

SHRINE MOSQUE
April 15—Beck with Atari Teenage Riot and The Roots
April 24—The Wallflowers

CONCERT

Band calls Joplin home with 9th show

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Get ready, Joplin. The rompin', stompin' Sawyer Brown show returns for the ninth time to Joplin on Saturday, April 12 at Memorial Hall.

"This is the most requested act we've had here," said Al Zar of Zar Entertainment, the show's producer. "It's more than just a concert."

Sawyer Brown's high-energy style sets them apart from other country music groups. Mark Miller, lead singer, described their unique style in a biography provided by Zar.

"This year, it's no-brainer fun," he said. "We'll let the audience just sweat along with us and enjoy an evening. The set's got a backyard/circus look. At some point during the show we are gonna drop beach balls and confetti, stuff that is just fun."

Local radio station KIX 102.5 disc jockey Mike Lang has been associated with Sawyer Brown on their numerous trips to Joplin. He believes their flamboyant stage performance adds to the zest of their music.

"It's almost like watching a Vegas show," he said, "a real treat to watch."

Sawyer Brown's up-tempo songs celebrate the lives of everyday Americans on their new Curb Records album *This Thing Called Wantin' and Havin' It All*. Miller also discussed their new album in the group's biography.

"Depth-wise, I think this is some of the best writing we have done," he said. "I think the potential here is huge. We've asked the label to let us have six singles from the album, and they are excited about it."

The five-man group has achieved 15 Top 10 hits since taking their name from a Nashville-area thoroughfare in 1984.



Crystal Bernard



PHOTO COURTESY OF CURB RECORDS

Sawyer Brown will make their ninth appearance at Joplin's Memorial Hall on Saturday, April 12. Special guests Crystal Bernard and Kevin Sharp will appear as opening acts.

Singles from the new album include "This Thing Called Wantin' and Havin' It All," "Big Picture," "Like a John Deere," "Nothin' Less Than Love," and "Another Mile."

Joining the group in concert is Crystal Bernard. Though more noted for her role on NBC-TV's "Wings," she began her music career traveling with her father, an evangelical preacher, when she was 3. Bernard recalled her father's influence in a biography provided by Zar.

"Daddy taught us about singing while riding on the bus," she said. "He taught us about a lot of things — especially love."

Rounding out the performance is relative newcomer Kevin Sharp. A country singer

and cancer survivor, he achieved success with "Nobody Knows" and "The Strength to Love."

Sponsored by 1-800-Collect and co-sponsored by KIX 102.5 and KODE-TV, two performances of the show and the accompanying acts are set for 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$19.50 at Memorial Hall, Dillons (Pittsburg, Kan., and Joplin), Southwest Missouri Bank (Joplin, Neosho, and Carthage), Buy For Less in Miami, Okla., or by calling 623-1800.

Zar said people of all ages go to see Sawyer Brown and that a person doesn't need to be a country music fan to enjoy the show. □

MSIPC

Kislenko returns to College

By GINNY DUMOND
CAMPUS EDITOR

Fans and supporters of the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition will come together again as last year's winner, Natasha Kislenko, "Returns From Carnegie."

Kislenko will return to Missouri Southern's Webster Hall auditorium on Friday, April 18 after performing at Carnegie Hall as part of her prize from last spring's competition.

"A lot of people who wanted to didn't get to see her in New York," said Vivian Leon, MSIPC director. "We want to give people a chance to see her here."

The concert will provide funds for the next competition, as well as give people another chance to experience Kislenko's piano skills.

Kislenko will arrive in Joplin several days prior to the performance and put on programs on campus for area children.

According to Leon, the children will be bused to Webster auditorium to hear Kislenko play and learn a little about her life and music.

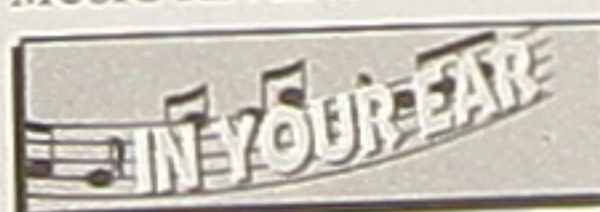
"We want for her to share and interact with the children," Leon said.

"I think it will be a good experience for everyone involved."

Kislenko's performances for the children are tentatively scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on April 16-17 in Webster auditorium. The main concert will be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, April 18.

Anyone with questions concerning either the competition or the performances may contact Leon's office at 625-9704. □

MUSIC REVIEW



'Pop' illustrates U2's great diversity



J.L. Griffin
Executive Editor

It must be noted that I am one of the largest U2 fans in the four-state area. I paid double for seventh-row tickets to an upcoming concert in St. Louis.

I believe in watching a concert in style. I am proud to say I was the first person in Joplin, other than an employee at one of the music stores, to own a copy of the band's latest CD *POP*. This is an indisputable fact; I don't care what anybody else says.

Anyway, to the point at hand — the CD: it's fantastic, and once again totally different than anything they've done before.

This CD incorporates many of the aspects for which the band has become famous. It is a far cry better than *Zooropa*, which featured Bono squealing in a

falsetto voice for most of the CD.

Another plus to *POP* is there are no bonus tracks featuring the whisky voice of Johnny Cash.

Back to *POP*. The first track to be released as a single was "Discothèque," an upbeat, poppy, guitar-laden song that has become very popular at nightclubs.

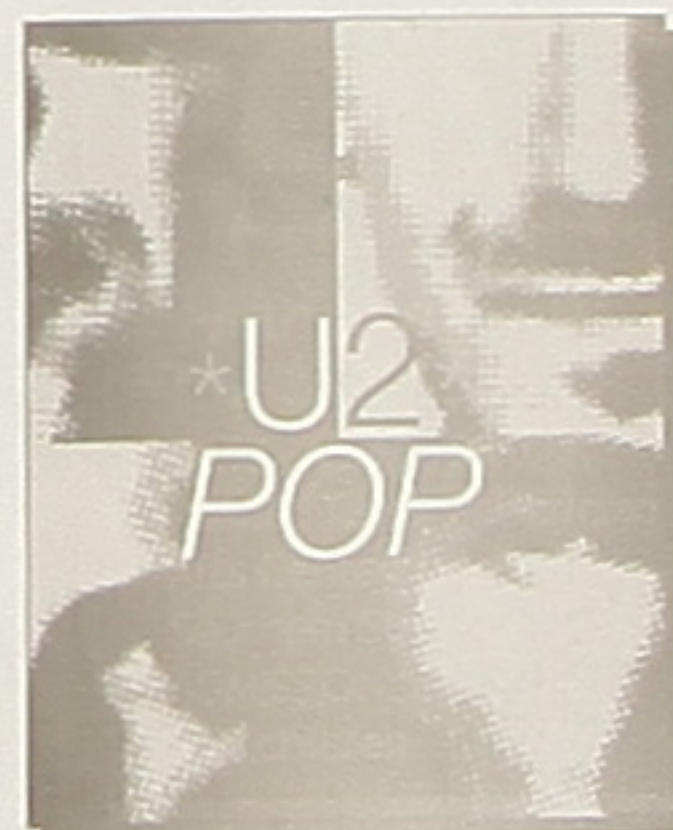
In true U2 fashion there are several tracks that mellow the listener, "The Playboy Mansion" being the best on the CD. "The Playboy Mansion" is the most blatant track to incorporate the title of the CD. All the songs on the CD having something to do with pop culture, but with lyrics mocking the O.J. Simpson trial, Michael Jackson, Coca-Cola's secret formula, America's lottery system, and many

other pop icons, "The Playboy Mansion" lyricizes America's obsession with what is hip.

Another song that epitomizes America's obsession with the glamorous lifestyle is "Miami." Anyone who has been to South Beach or even seen pictures of it on television knows what this song is about. Just like almost every song on the CD, "Miami" is an edict of the world's "style over substance" traits.

An equally crazed U2 fan pointed out "Mofo" as his favorite song.

I did enjoy the song because it showcases each member's musical abilities, but still has the edginess to it that makes it a uniquely new song. However, it took a few listenings to enjoy "Mofo" fully. The song



harkens back to U2's hard-edged days.

It looks as if I'm falling into the category of people U2 is so vehemently sick of seeing. □



Bud Clark, assistant professor of music, gives an edict from the royal table to his subject Andrea Sapp.

Madrigal mayhem

Dinner feasts on food, laughter

With the red carpet rolled out and a hearty "What Hoe," the Missouri Southern Madrigal Feast began.

The chamber choir, with the help of some drama students, began rehearsals some two months prior to the March 12-15 event. All of the fun was not tied up in just the show.

"At one of the dress rehearsals I wore the wrong color undies with my costume," said Jennifer Kronkow, sophomore physical education major. "Needless to say, everyone got a good laugh."

With practice and rehearsal out of the way, opening night came.

"It was tough," Kronkow said. "I didn't know what to expect, but once we got started everything went pretty well."

The cast, dressed in 16th-century attire, tried its best to speak with a British accent.

"I just couldn't do it," said Kristy Kyser, freshman undeclared major. "I sounded Scottish or Irish every night."

The Taylor Auditorium stage was transformed into a dining hall with castle walls, flags, and paintings hanging everywhere.

At the front of the hall sat the queen, and elevated at

the rear of the hall sat the royal musicians. Members of the choir moved around constantly, either wiping hands as wiping wenches or delivering food to the table masters.

Audience members feasted on a dinner fit for a king of turkey legs, ribs, corn on the cob, cottage fries, and a pastry dessert. Since no utensils were used, a wiping wench was essential.

"Eating without silverware and staying clean is nearly impossible," Kronkow said. "Being a wiping wench was probably the strangest thing I've ever done."

Some wiping wenches even fought over who would wipe whom.

Mistakes at a live theatre are bound to happen no matter how much rehearsal takes place.

"Every night one choir member would forget his lines and just ad lib or babble his way through it," Kyser said. "No matter how many times you rehearse, you can't predict how it will turn out."

The Madrigal Feast entertained guests for four nights of performances.

"It was great, but the best part was seeing all the smiles and just knowing everyone had a great evening," Kronkow said.

So until next year, "What Hoe!" ☐



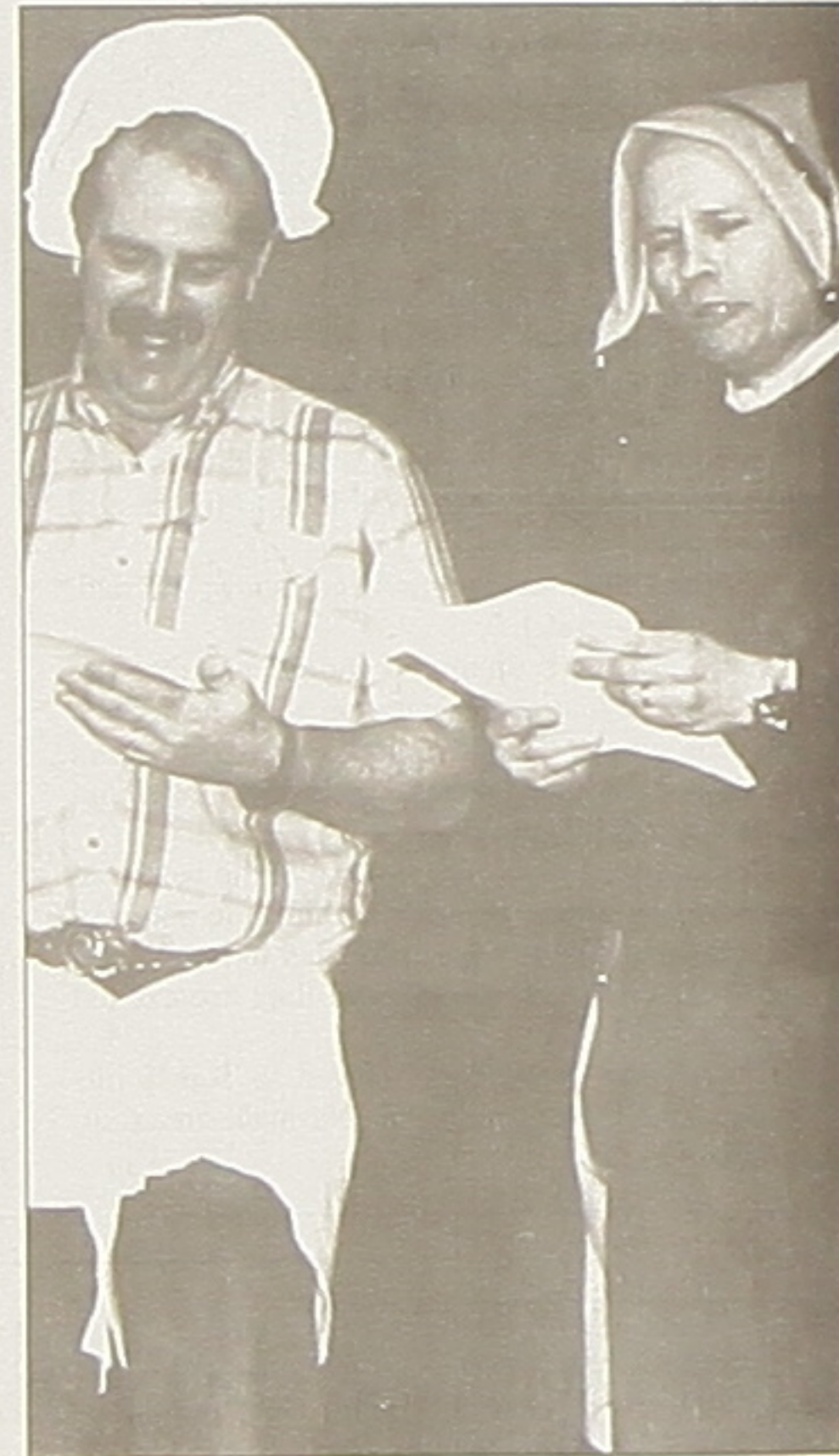
Jennifer Kronkow, biology education major, dances in merriment during this year's Madrigal Feast.



Andy Adams (left), Andrea Sapp (middle), sophomore vocal education major, and Dr. Susan Smith (right), assistant professor of music, collaborated in several attempts to involve the audience in the performance.



Todd Harmon, freshman instrumental education major, entertains the crowd and fellow performer Andy Adams, senior elementary education major, at the feast.



Kevin Minear (left) and Claude Jardon participate in the crazy performances during the 3rd annual Madrigal Feast put on by various members of Missouri Southern's music and theatre departments.

**Story and photos
by John Smith**

□ With the emergence of grunge bands like Nirvana, Pearl Jam, and Alice In Chains, the glam rockers of the 1980s have lost their glory in the fans' hearts, and their respect among the music industry.

Now, one question remains. Will the hair bands of a decade ago return in the near future, like disco has today?

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

Many bands just trying to pay bills

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

It seems the long-haired, guitar-screaming metal bands that dominated the rock'n'roll air waves almost a decade ago have all but been forgotten in the 1990s.

So, what happened to the "monsters of rock?"

Did heavy metal just rust away, or are Neil Young's words "rust never sleeps" true?

Once the 1980s ended, the hair bands started disappearing. There are differing opinions of why bands like Guns N' Roses, Whitesnake, Skid Row, and Winger started disbanding.

"I liked Motley Crue," said Daniel Wimberly, a freshman undecided major at Missouri Southern.

"I didn't have much of a taste for bands like Warrant or Winger, though."

"I think what happened is, as soon as the 1990s came along, they had to acquire talent," he said. "They couldn't do it, so they died out. The 1980s was just a glam thing."

John Smith, a senior graphic arts major, works at Musicland. He said there is still plenty of demand for 1980s rock at the store.

"I liked Ratt, Cinderella, Metallica, Guns N' Roses, Ozzy [Osbourne], Testament, Overkill...I could go on and on," Smith said. "I think people's interests changed. It was a phase in music, just like disco or anything else."

"I don't like it any less, just because it's not popular now," he said. "I heard Poison's getting back together, and Kip Winger just released a new album. There has been kind of a resurgence of interest in it (80s rock) to a degree. A lot of people still buy CDs of various [80s] artists."

Paul Cannell, program manager for Joplin's KOCD radio, agrees that the hair bands haven't completely fallen from favor and retired.

"Skid Row's lead singer, Sebastian Bach, has formed a new band with



Warrant's lead singer Jani Lane (left) and lead guitarist Erik Turner perform during a concert in the late 1980s. Warrant's first album, *Dirty Rotten Filthy Stinking Rich*, sold more than 1 million copies with hits like "Heaven" and "Down Boys."



Skid Row, led by its lead singer, Sebastian Bach (pictured), became a driving force in the rock scene in 1988 with its first single, "Youth Gone Wild."

the Breeders' guitarist, Kelley Deal, and ex-Smashing Pumpkins drummer Jimmy Chamberlin," Cannell said.

"Guns N' Roses is still together, still touring, and possibly putting another album out — you just don't hear much about them anymore."

"Grunge rock kind of put the hair bands out of work, but a lot of the bands are still hanging out, trying to survive. Back in the the 80s they were playing in 25,000-seat arenas."

"Now bands like Warrant are playing clubs, just trying to pay the bills." □

Photos courtesy of
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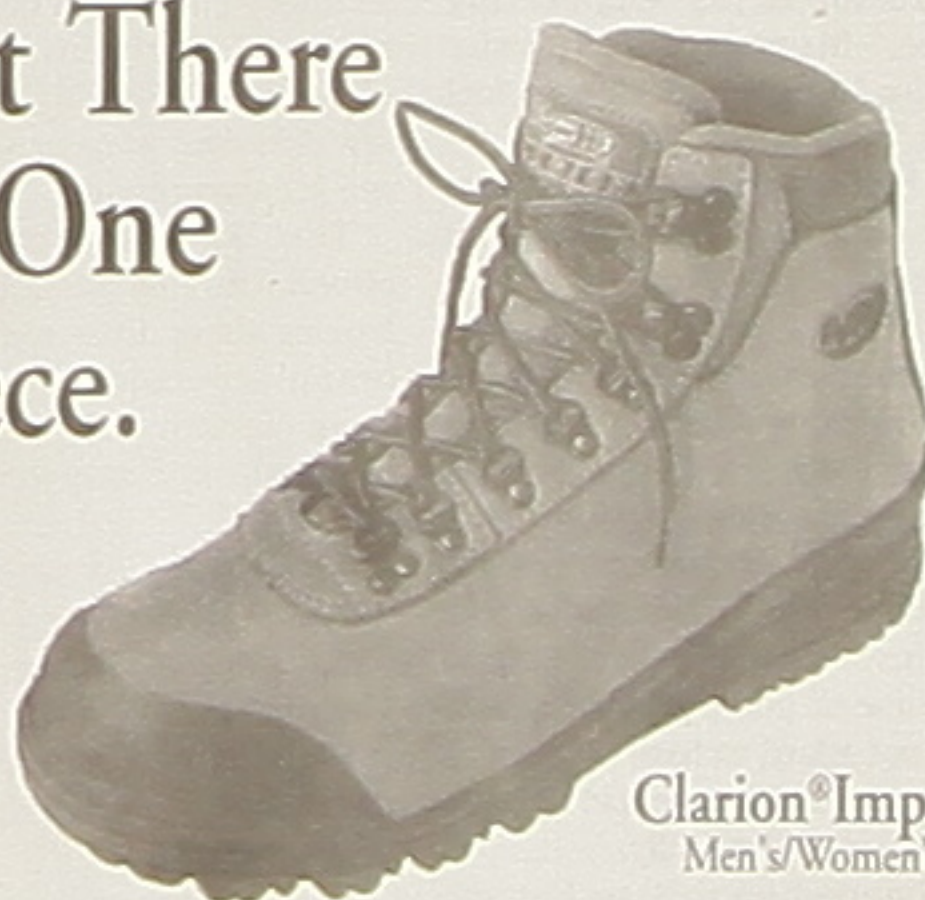
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You know you're getting old when...

...you begin to sound and act just like your parents did when you were young.

...the simple pleasures of life, that were once important, begin to give you a headache.

Last March, my husband, Keven, bought a used light-brown F-250 diesel 4x4 pickup



Teresa Bland
Staff Writer

truck from a friend. The truck wasn't much to look at; it was an old dusty hunk of metal that didn't smell too good inside. Keven wanted a good truck with a lot of power for hauling wood, carrying the camper, or pulling our boat to the lake. Once the glow plug light went out and the ignition key was turned, you could hear the reason why I called the truck Bad Boy.

It had dual exhaust with a set of glass packs.

When I took Bad Boy to town, the roar of pure, raw, ear-splitting noise was such a rush to me. I was driving a vehicle with power.

I was cool.

During my high school days in Oklahoma City, I would drag 39th Street in my 1971 pee-yellow VW Bug.

It wasn't the kind of car that races are made of, and I envied the kids with their hopped-up Camaros and bad-sounding Mustangs.

I yearned to feel that rush.

At that same time, in Fairland, Okla., Keven made waves with the open headers in a little Deuce. His brother, Bud, used to get pulled over on a weekly basis for having the headers uncorked in his car. The brothers liked their cars to be heard as well as seen.

I guess age caught up with my dear husband. A few months, after purchasing Bad Boy, Keven realized that people were covering their ears when we drove by.

It bothered him to see people cringe in pain.

He made a decision that would change Bad Boy's life forever.

Keven became an old fogey when he took the truck to the muffler shop and had it neutered.

Bad Boy's sound of unbridled power was gone and replaced with the klackety-klack of stripped dignity. Twenty years of striving for ultimate coolness was stripped away and replaced with turbo mufflers. The 17-year old heart inside this 30-something body was bruised and broken.

I was no longer cool. I was dragged against my will, kicking and screaming, into maturity.

Keven still loves his diesel-drinking truck, whose "new-tered" name is Bob, and uses it to carry the camper, pull the boat, and haul an occasional load of wood.

Occasionally, a good-looking, tough-sounding car will pass by the house. Keven stares, sighs, and talks of the dream rod he is going to build someday.

I wonder how long it will take him to neuter it. □

NEW CAR REVIEW

Honda produces another great Prelude

Redesign of car gives driver power, fun in the sun

By LESLIE ROBERTS
AUTOMOTIVE EDITOR

Only one engine is available in the 1997 Prelude, but it is a sweet one. Using its advanced VTEC technology, Honda produces a maximum of 195 bhp and 156 pound-ft. of torque from a 2.1-liter four-cylinder.



Leslie Roberts
Automotive Editor

But even neater than the engine is the available Active Torque Transfer System (ATTS) that comes standard on the Prelude Type SH. This system senses the vehicle going into a turn and portions more torque to the outside wheel to help the vehicle turn in more quickly. Coupled with the standard 4-wheel independent suspension, this system provides better control through corners.

Another interesting technological feature available to the Prelude buyer is the Sequential SportShift automatic transmission. Although it can be used as a regular, fully automatic transmission, the shift lever also has a sequential slot, in which it may be shifted like a manual gearbox, although without the use of a clutch. This option provides people for whom shifting manual transmissions is either a skill never learned or a non-option due to medical reasons.

Unfortunately, I was unable to sample this system, but I tend to



AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR CO., INC./Special to The Chart

Honda's 1997 Prelude is available with a sophisticated torque control system, ATTS, that apportions torque to the outside wheel to aid in cornering.

prefer manual transmissions anyway. This one is certainly nice, with the shifter easily movable through the gate. The driver is never left wondering in which gear the transmission is. The car was easy to drive smoothly.

Seamless, too, is the engine's race to redline. Although the VTEC employs two different cam lobe settings, one specialized for lower RPM and one for the higher rev ranges, I couldn't tell where one setting ended and the other engaged. Instead, there was one strong pull to redline.

My test drive of the car was unfortunately short, so I was unable to experience the car to the fullest, with its cornering ability being the biggest question mark. I believe that this would be a very able car, however, and abler when equipped with the optional Type SH package.

Along with the ATTS system,

this package makes a rear deck lid spoiler standard and adds a leather-wrapped shift knob and an exclusive alloy wheel design.

These features distinguish it from a standard Prelude, which itself comes with very few options. For \$23,200 plus a \$395 destination charge, the car comes standard with a power moonroof, 16" alloy wheels, air conditioning, power windows, a leather-wrapped steering wheel, cruise control, and an 120-watt AM/FM CD player with 6 speakers.

Also standard is a black cloth interior across the board except for cars painted in the Eucalyptus Green Pearl exterior color, which come with an ivory and black interior. Other available exterior colors are red, black and silver.

This paint adheres to an unusual yet familiar body shape. The car's styling is somewhat blocky when viewed from the side and the rear,

but yet still is pleasing to the eye. In the front, the lighting design at first seems awkward, but after some contemplation of it, one notices styling cues from not the previous-generation Prelude, but the one before it. That car had pop-up lights, which is probably why the exposed lights look odd to me on this car.

Although the test drive was far too short, it did take the car across rough pavement and railroad tracks. The car endured this rough treatment with nary a squeak or a rattle, providing evidence of a solid body and good build quality. The ATTS system's technology harks back to high-tech Preludes of late, some of which carried four-wheel steering and other engineering-intensive options. Overall, I was impressed with the car. In every facet of the test-drive, it showed its merit and heritage as a Honda. □

Standard
Features

Base price: \$23,200

Engine: 195-bhp DOHC
16-valve VTEC 4-cyl.

Transmission: 5-speed
manual/Sequential

SportShift automatic

Suspension: 4-wheel double wishbone.

Brakes: Power-assisted 4-wheel disc w/ABS

Selected standard features:

Sliding power moonroof;

6-speaker AM/FM

CD player; leather-

wrapped steering wheel;

air conditioning;

cruise control;

power windows.

AUTOMOTIVE PERSONALITY

English professor
longs for his Healey

By LESLIE ROBERTS
AUTOMOTIVE EDITOR

When talking about his "automotive history," Dr. Henry Morgan, professor of English, most longs for his 1962 Italian Red Austin-Healey Mark II 3000.

"The Healey was so low to the ground in the back end, that if you had a flat tire, the car was so low that you could not get the jack that came with the car under the axle," he said. "I had to buy a scissors jack to jack the axle up just enough that I could get the regular jack underneath — you needed an engineering degree in jacks just to drive a Healey."

In addition to his "engineering degree," Morgan said his wife earned a "master's in electric fuel pumps."

"She became a very good mechanic," he said. "You had to be, with the Healey."

The Healey succumbed to its own mechanical contrariness and the usual finance problems of a college student.

"I was in graduate school, and you can only afford one car and it had to be your transportation as well as your love. This one came down with some oil pump problems that I could not afford to have repaired.... I hated to do it, but we had to [sell] it," Morgan said ruefully.

It's interesting that an English professor most longs for an English car, of all the neat iron he's owned, including a 1934 Ford Roadster, a chopped-and-channelled 1949 Mercury, and a chartreuse 1951 Ford convertible, along with several MGs, an Austin-Cooper Mini, and a few Morris Minors.

"I started high school in 1948-49 and I graduated in '52-'53," Morgan said. "And these were the hot rod years. All car production in America

was suspended after Pearl Harbor, so there are no 1942 cars, '43 cars, '44, or '45.

"There was enormous demand and very few cars, so people started getting old-old cars and reviving them. I was lucky to be there right at the very beginning. Every kid that I knew that was my age was very interested in it," he said.

To the teenagers of Morgan's generation, cars represented freedom and an expression of individuality.

"The cars were relatively uncomplicated so you could do all your own work, which was essential, because nobody could afford to have a hot rod otherwise," Morgan said.

Like most other American teenagers, to him a performance car meant a car of American origin.

Up to his 1958 MGA, Morgan says, his cars were mostly of Ford and Mercury origin.

"The '51 Ford convertible I owned: Oh, that was a long, sleek-looking thing. Chartreuse was the brand new color Ford had just come out with that year. It's a sort of a bright, brilliant green color," he said.

"And with the continental kit and the lowering kit on it — God, that thing was low to the ground. The supercharger was an all-out blower. It had a full racing cam, and the damn thing wouldn't run under about 2,000 rpm!"

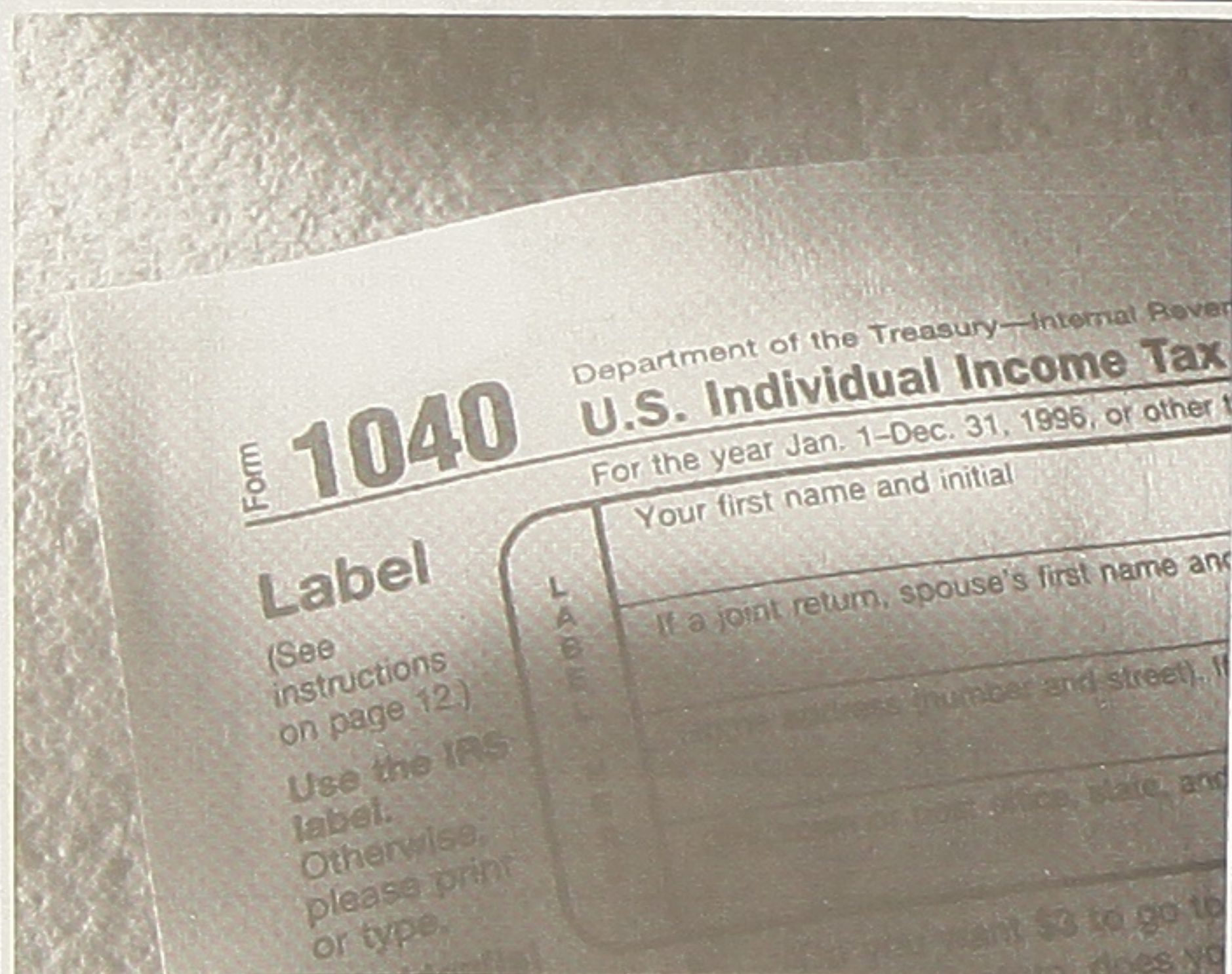
His love affair with the American car did not end until his exposure to foreign sports cars.

"My first foreign car was the MGA roadster. I had seen one of these in Hawaii when I was stationed there, and I got back to the States and I couldn't stand not having one," Morgan said.

What does he drive after all the cars of his youth?

"An 11-year-old Nissan pickup truck," he said, laughing. □

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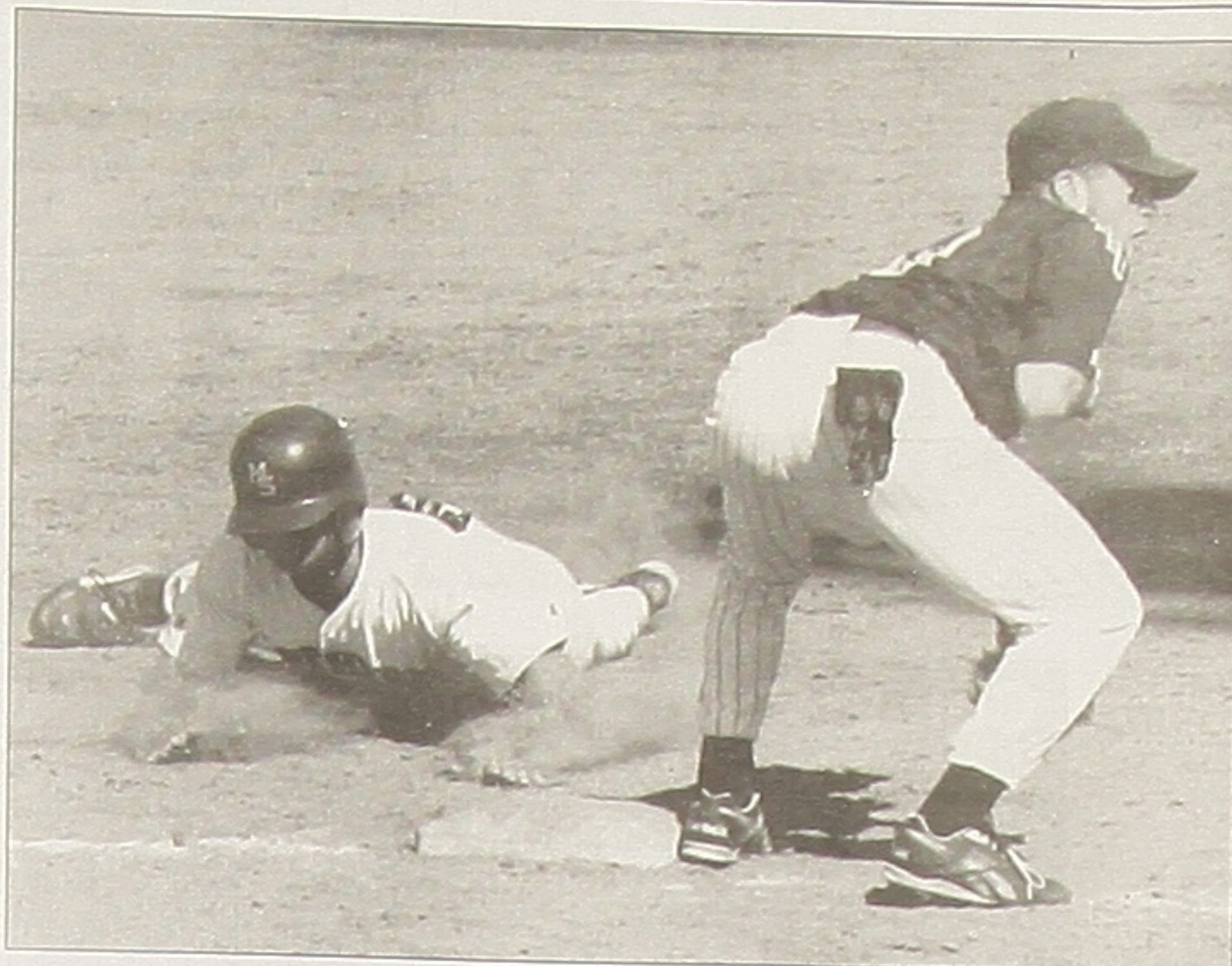
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The Lions split two games against Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., on Tuesday. The Lions lost the opening game 20-8 before winning the nightcap 11-8. Southern will return home April 10.

JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Power at plate surprises coach

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Experience and improvement are two major goals set by head baseball coach Warren Turner for his young Lion baseball squad.

Missouri Southern split two conference games against Northwest Missouri State (2-5, 10-12) Tuesday, losing the first game 20-8 before winning the nightcap 11-8.

The Lions are 3-5 in the MIAA and 13-12 overall.

"People are calling us the kiddie squad," Turner said. "We just keep getting better and improving every day. We are winning some conference games and getting good experience. The experience is very valuable for this group. This is probably the youngest team I've ever had."

Prior to the start of the season,

one of Turner's concerns was his team's ability to score. His young pitching staff was also a concern.

Turner said he has a simple solution to get to post-season play.

"It's been a surprise that hitting is our best area," Turner said. "We thought fielding would be our best aspect, but our hitting has turned out to be the best. We're trying to set a rotation down. We just have to play our conference one game at a time. We have to worry about that [the conference tournament] when it comes time and hope we have enough wins."

The Lions were scheduled to play at the University of Arkansas Wednesday. Junior pitcher Ralph Iovinelli was slated to take the mound for Southern.

The Lions travel to Lincoln on Saturday and Sunday before returning home Wednesday against Truman State. □

Sports SCOPE

Record doesn't indicate team's overall potential

Missouri Southern softball coach Pat Lipira should welcome the challenge of trying to make this year's squad successful.

In years past, the Lady Lions have been one of the best, if not the best, softball program in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association. In 1997, however, Lipira and her players have battled youth, inconsistency at the plate, and an erratic defense.

Tuesday's double-header losses to Pittsburg State are cause for concern.

Southern finishes .500 in the MIAA South Division where it has traditionally dominated. The Lady Lions' schedule doesn't get any easier as they enter North Division competition.

Washburn beat Southern 3-0 in early-season action at the Pizza Hut/Ott Food Lady Lion Classic. Central Missouri has a quality pitching staff, although Southern easily leads the MIAA in that category; Missouri Western leads the MIAA in hitting, where the Lady Lions are fourth; and Emporia State has an all-around tough squad.

One reason why the Lady Lions' pitching statistics are so impressive is senior pitcher Holly Trantham. Trantham, who is 7-4 this season, allows just .58 earned runs per game. No other pitcher in the MIAA allows less than one run per contest.

Sophomore Teri Mathis has a 1.45 ERA and senior Jane Roberts has a 1.73 ERA.

Despite what amounts to a mediocre Southern record so far, it should be noted that the Lady Lions are potentially as good, or better, than any other team in the conference. Consider the fact that Southern outscored its opponents by an average of 4.68 to 2.54.

Junior Heather Trantham, Holly's sister, is leading the Lady Lions in hitting with a .382 mark. She was hitting .403 prior to the matchup with Pittsburg State Tuesday. Leadoff hitter Jennifer Kennemer leads all freshmen with a .314 average.

Senior Amber Peterson has been a pleasant surprise. Peterson is hitting .352. Juniors Kim Wilson and Jennifer Jimerson are hitting .333 and .317 respectively. Jimerson, a first-team all-conference selection last year and freshman of the year two years ago, is just starting to find her stroke after slumping early in the season.

Despite the roller-coaster season so far, Lipira has an array of positives to focus on:

One, her team is young — it's only going to get better as the season goes on.

Two, aside from the PSU sweep, the Lady Lions have been hitting the ball much better than earlier in the season.

Three, Southern still has the strongest pitching staff in the conference. When push comes to shove, pitching wins championships.

And Four, Lipira is a committed and accomplished coach. She knows how to win and she knows how to teach her players to win. Once her message sinks in with the younger players, Missouri Southern will be that much better. □



Ryan Bronson
Associate Editor

TRACK & FIELD

Outdoor teams go full speed

JOE ECKHOFF
STAFF WRITER

Not wasting any time to get off to a good start, the Missouri Southern track squads began their outdoor season on a good note.

Both teams ran in meets at Pittsburg State and Texas Pan-Am over spring break and last weekend at Southwest Missouri State University.

It didn't take the Lady Lions long to pick up their first provisional record of the outdoor season. Heather Hoyle set a provisional record and a school record in the 200-meter run (24.86). In the first two meets of the season, Tina Keller won the 100- and 400-meter hurdles at Pittsburg State and Texas Pan-Am.

"Tina's running extremely well, and she's been hampered by a hamstring problem and didn't compete at SMSU," Lady Lion head coach Pat Vavra said.

After having great performances in the first two meets of the season, the Lady Lions' hectic schedule took its toll on the runners last weekend.

"Right now we are a little flat with spring break and we are real tired," Vavra said. "But we should rebound this weekend."

The Lion 4x100 relay team set a school record and provisional time of 41.34 in last weekend's meet. The team consisted of junior Darren Simmons, senior James Thrash, senior Jason Zurba, and sophomore Darrell Simmons.

Lion head coach Tom Rutledge said he has been pleased with this season's squad. "This is just the type of group where the chemistry is good," Rutledge said. "They work hard, don't complain, and do their job." □

SOFTBALL



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Senior outfielder Wendy Deaton swings and misses during the Lady Lions game against Southwest Baptist on March 25. The game, at Lea Kungle Field, is the only conference matchup scheduled at home for the Lady Lions. Missouri Southern's next home game is April 23.

PSU downs Southern in doubleheader

Lady Lions watch early leads slip from fingertips

By JASON OWEN
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a long, hard day Tuesday as the Missouri Southern Lady Lion softball team dropped both games of a doubleheader against conference rival Pittsburg State.

In the twilight game, the Lady Lion's went up 1-0, only to see the lead quickly diminish to a final 4-1 deficit.

"We could not hold on to a lead," Lady Lion head coach Pat Lipira said.

"Pittsburg State just came out and out-played us."

The second game became a carbon copy of the first as Southern went up 1-0, only to

see the Gorillas run away with a 7-2 victory.

"It was just a tough day," Lipira said. "We could not capitalize on our opportunities. There were at least two separate occasions where we had the bases loaded with no outs, and we could not come up with any runs."

"We just didn't play well."

Pitching also proved to be difficult for the Lady Lions. Senior Holly Trantham, who ended last season with a 1.28 ERA, had trouble keeping the ball in the strike zone.

"I did not pitch like I know I can," she said. "It is tough because we really did not play that badly. It really can be narrowed down to one or maybe two innings."

I would walk someone, and then that would put them in a scoring position.

"Then they would score, and we just did not seem to be able to recover from the."

Lipira said while the team does certainly look to Trantham to produce, they can not just fall apart when she doesn't.

"We certainly expect a lot out of Holly," she said. "She can be a very dominant player, but when she isn't the rest of the team has to be there to support her."

"We have to be able to score the runs, eliminate the errors, and make the outs if we expect to be successful."

Success is certainly something Lipira is looking for.

"We have the potential to have a really good year," she said. "It's not how you play in the beginning, but how you play in the end that really counts."

"We have put ourselves in a really good position this year, we just have to make something of where we are."

"We have a lot of ball yet to be played. We are 4-4 in the conference right now, and we still have

twelve games left in conference."

"We're still in the running for the conference title, but it will be dependent on everyone coming through and playing as a team."

Trantham echoed those thoughts.

"We are all pretty down after the losses to Pittsburg," she said.

"What we are going to have to do is put those behind us and move on."

"We have six very important conference games this weekend, and they have to become our focus."

"We have been in this position before, I guess it is just a little more critical this time. We have to come together as a team, and play like I know we can."

"If we do that, then we really have the potential to put

Southern Scoreboard

Lion Baseball



MIAA Standings

Through March 23

(conf, overall)

1. Central Missouri	7-0, 15-4
2. Pittsburg State	5-2, 22-9
3. Emporia State	4-2, 13-7
4. Washburn	4-2, 12-10
5. Southwest Baptist	0-0, 9-4
6. Missouri-Rolla	3-4, 6-6
7. Lincoln	3-4, 7-12
8. Truman State	2-3, 7-13
9. Missouri Southern	2-4, 8-12
10. Northwest Missouri	1-4, 9-12
11. Missouri Western	0-5, 9-11



Southern Stats

Batting Average

1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU	.538
2. Contreras, Oscar, Jr., ESU	.482
3. Goodwin, Dave, Jr., CMSU	.462
4. Shorter, Brad, Jr., PSU	.448

Runs Batted In

1. Esposito, Daniel, Sr., PSU	59
2. Myers, Matt, Sr., PSU	48
3. Barlet, Jeremy, Jr., ESU	38
4. Contreras, Oscar, Jr., ESU	36

Earned Run Average

1. Niemczk, Josh, So., TSU	2.67
2. Cronk, Daryl, So., PSU	2.68
3. Bybee, Mark, Jr., SBU	2.87

Lady Lion Softball



MIAA Standings

Through March 30

(conf, overall)

1. Central Missouri	2-0, 14-6
2. Pittsburg State	3-1, 14-9
3. Washburn	3-1, 13-13
4. Missouri Southern	4-2, 12-8
5. Missouri-Rolla	2-2, 22-10
6. Emporia State	2-2, 12-9
7. Northwest Missouri	2-2, 13-11
8. Southwest Baptist	1-1, 14-7
9. Truman State	1-3, 10-7
10. Missouri Western	0-2, 18-10
11. Lincoln University	0-4, 2-18



Southern Stats

Batting Average

1. Graham, Shelly, Fr., PSU	.557
2. Sullivan, Megan, Fr., TSU	.500
3. Gunn, Shannon, Fr., MWSC	.481
4. Alt, Becca, Jr., UMR	.444

Runs Batted In

1. Schreengost, Amber, So., ESU	29
2. Temple, Allison, So., ESU	28
3. Atkins, Stacey, Jr., SBU	21
4. Holthaus, Heather, So., ESU	18

Earned Run Average

1. Trantham, Holly, Sr., MSSC	.52
2. Berg Mandee, Sr., CMSU	1.05
3. Teri Mathis, So., MSSC	1.27

The numbers and facts every Lion fan should know.

This Week

Friday —
■ Softball Lady Lions at Shawnee, Kan., TBA.
■ Tennis Lady Lions at Mankato State, 12-30 p.m.
■ MSSC Track & Field, Radio Shack Crossroads Invitational, Fred G. Hughes Stadium, TBA.
Saturday —
■ MSSC Track & Field, Radio Shack Crossroads Invitational, Fred G. Hughes Stadium, TBA.
■ Softball Lady Lions at Shawnee, Kan., TBA.
■ Golf Lions at Central Missouri Heart of America Invitational.
Wednesday —
■ Baseball Lions vs. Truman State, Joe Becker, 3:30 p.m.

Ryan Bronson

HALE-BOPP

JOHN HACKER/Special to The Chart

Any Questions?

- The discovery of Comet C/1995 01 (Hale-Bopp) has generated a great number of inquiries from the general public. Here are some commonly asked questions:

What is a comet?

A comet is a small body in our solar system that orbits the sun much as do the earth and other planets. It has a nucleus, or solid body, that is usually 1-10 km across and is supposedly a "dirty snowball" consisting of ices and dust and rock.

How was this comet discovered?

On July 23, 1995, two astronomers spotted the comet for the first time while looking at a cluster of stars in the constellation Sagittarius. Within minutes of each other, Dr. Alan Hale in New Mexico and Thomas Bopp, an amateur watching at a starwatching party in Arizona, independently recognized the fuzzy object that was fainter than the star cluster itself.

How far away is the comet now and how close will it come to Earth?

April 1 was the comet's perihelion. Perihelion is when an orbiting object is closest to the sun. On March 22, Hale-Bopp was 1.3 AU from the earth. The sun is 1 AU from the earth. Hale-Bopp is not much further than 1.3 AU from the earth right now, and during perihelion, it was just .91 AU from the sun.

Where in the sky is the comet?

The comet is now well placed for observation for northern-hemisphere observers only — in both the morning and the evening skies. One should look to the northeastern portion of the sky to see the comet. A pair of binoculars to confirm the large, diffuse/condensed nature of the comet with a tail pointing upward from the horizon.

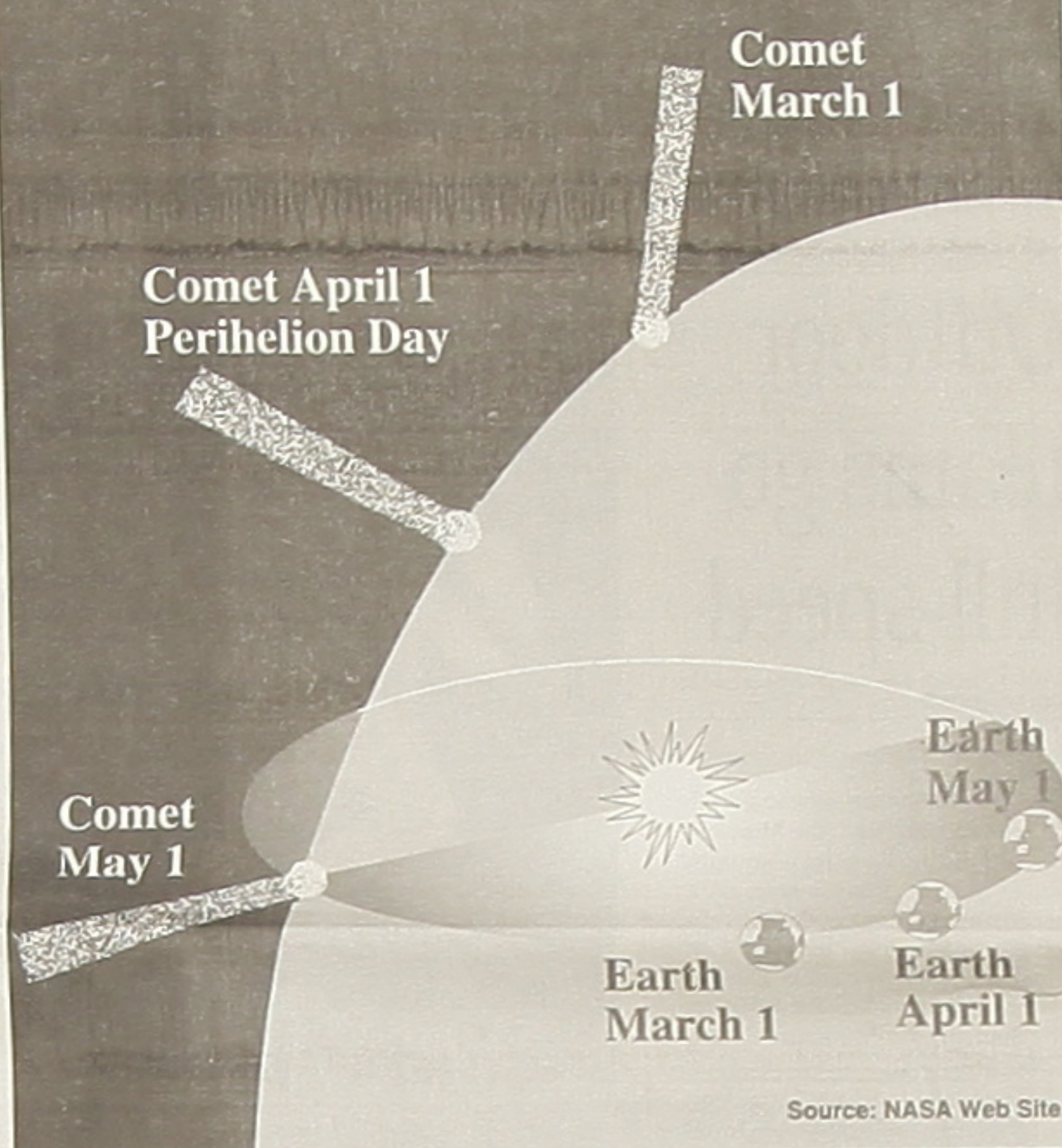
As each day passes in April, the comet will move lower and lower in the sky, but should be more visible during the night rather than in the morning.

Will Hale-Bopp be the comet of the century?

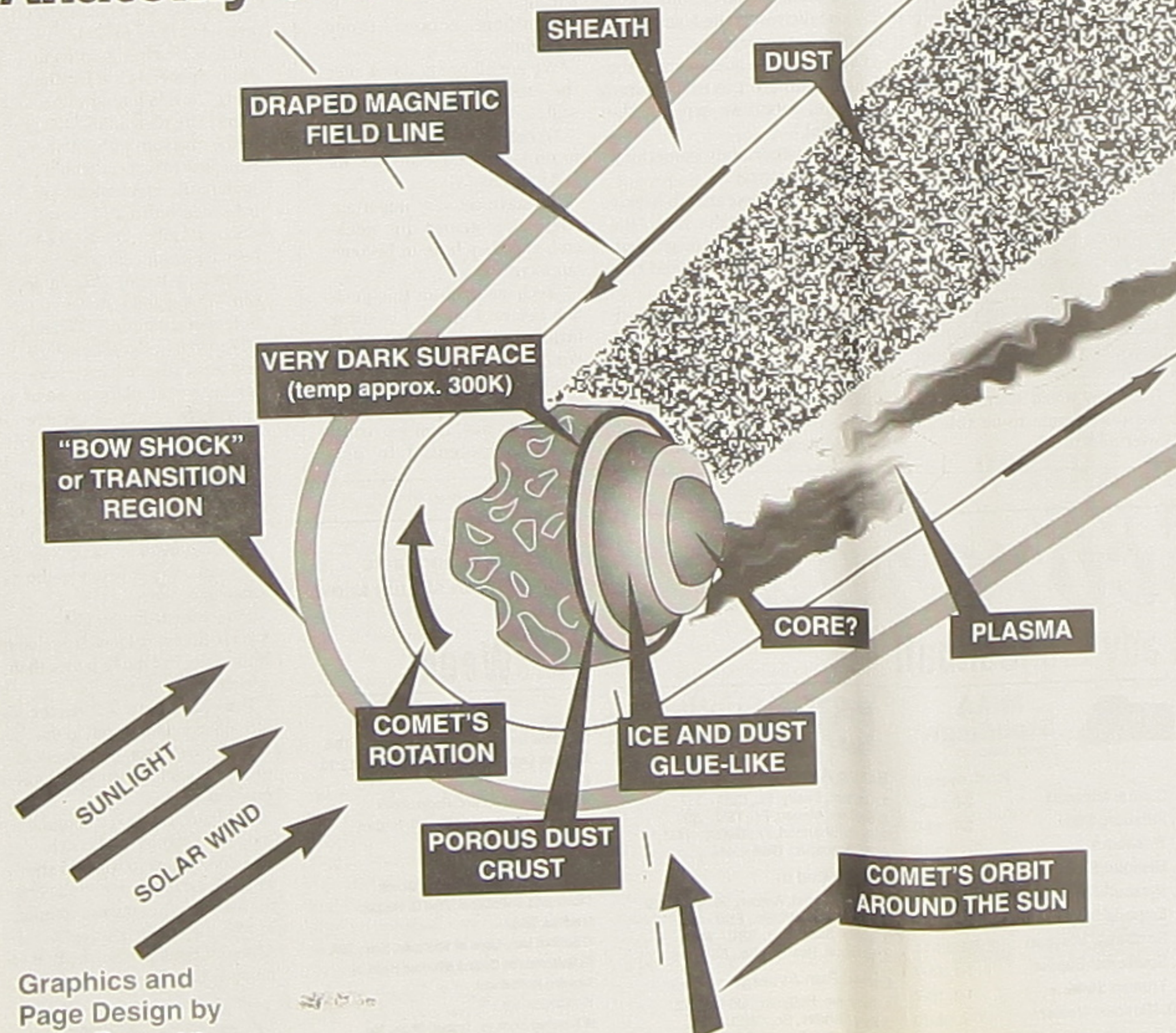
Probably not, especially from a scientific standpoint. From a popular standpoint, however, the recent Heaven's Gate suicides have brought more media attention to this comet than any before it.

Scientifically, the comet of the century was Halley's, the only comet to have been visited at close range by artificial imaging spacecraft.

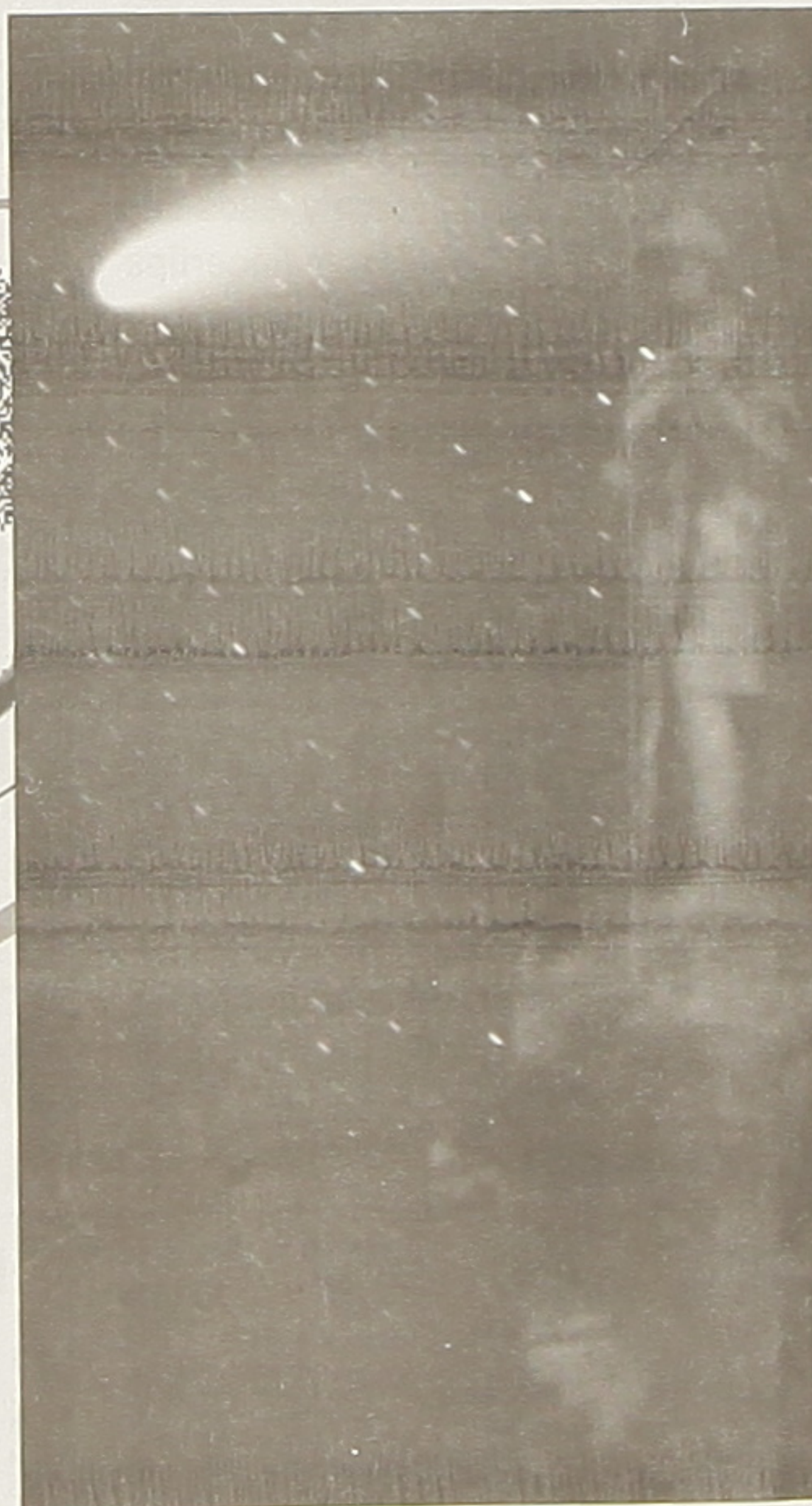
Information produced at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA), Cambridge, Mass.

Comet Hale-Bopp's Passage
between March and May 1997

Anatomy of a Comet



Graphics and
Page Design by
Ryan Bronson



JOHN HACKER/Special to The Chart

The Hale-Bopp Comet shines brightly next to the Civil War Soldiers Memorial in Baxter Springs, Kan. The photo was shot with a 300mm lens, 30 second exposure at F4 with Kodak 1000 speed film, 8:30 p.m., March 27.

Isaiah the Historian

book includes many references to nations

CHART
SECTION
C

Thursday, April 3, 1997



IN GOD WE TRUST?

book includes many references to nations
lers of his day. Perhaps more than any other
Isaiah had a deep sense of history. In fact,
t of the life of King Uzziah and

and their goals will die to each other
there the night creatures will also repose
and find for themselves places of rest
The owl will nest there and lay eggs

Even though we may not see its effects on a day-to-day basis, religion is a part of our every day lives.

Whether it's attending Sunday Mass, taking part in religious organizations on campus, or being unsure of the truths of a higher being, religion is a driving force here in the four-state area.

It is hoped that this special section, "In God We Trust?," will offer some enlightenment of the unique aspects different beliefs have to offer.

The question mark at the end of this section's title is a symbol of the various types of higher beings, because as we all know, our beliefs are not the same.

The owl will nest there and lay eggs,
she will hatch them, and care for her
under the shadow of her wings,
there also the owl will nest and lay eggs

FUTURE OF RELIGION

Idleman foresees denominational void

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Religion. What changes have taken place and what lies ahead?

Throughout the ages, the face of religion has been rapidly changing. As society approaches the upcoming millennium, denominations, or organized factions of religion, may be on the way out.

The evolution of religion, according to Ken Idleman, president of Joplin's Ozark Christian College (OCC), has been mutating toward a more non-denominational type of existence.

"We should see the elimination of denominational lines and the desire to embrace non-denominational Christianity," he said. "It is a desire people have for relationship instead of religion."

Idleman thinks churches that emphasize a personal relationship with God and people will be the ones that flourish.

"Nationally, the churches that are growing are the non-denominational churches," he said. "As technology increases, people will tend to live more isolated lives, and I think there will be more of a desire for personal relationships that are deep rather than superficial."

Within the religious communities, Idleman said, "mega-churches" are becoming more commonplace. Smaller ministry groups are forming within these huge churches to give

new vitality and dynamic lift, which encourages the overall growth.

"Willow Creek Church in Wheaton, Ill., has approximately 15,000 people on a typical Sunday, but smaller groups of six to 10 families meet in people's homes through the week," Idleman said.

Religious music in the traditional services, Idleman said, has moved in another direction.

"Music has definitely changed," he said. "The music in the services has become more celebrative and positive. A lot of baby boomers, baby busters, and generation Xers all enjoy going now."

"It is a happy place to be," Worship, Idleman said, has risen to "a whole new day."

"There are more people attending church today than in the history of the nation," he said. "This is because of the dynamic and spiritual preaching. It is need-oriented and Bible-based."

One example of the growth among non-denominational churches is Christ's Church, north of Oronogo. Pastor Kent Williams said the church has experienced a 20 percent growth every year for the past nine years.

"The attendance was at 125 when I came here nine years

ago," he said. "We went through a real transformation. Now we average about 950 people."

Williams said the sudden growth spurt could be attributed to the lack of commitment to a particular denominational brand or label.

"There is not a loyalty like our parents had when they were growing up," he said. "People go where their needs are met, and we just have an environment that people find appealing."

Williams said oftentimes there is more of a clash of ideas and beliefs in the smaller denominational churches than in the larger non-denominational ones.

"Now, there is more of a variety of backgrounds, but there is no fighting," he said. "We do have core values that we will not bend on, though, such as speaking in tongues."

"We are not pro or anti on that issue. We are pro-Jesus Christ, and we don't want anything to happen that would take the focus off of Him."

Unity, Williams said, is extremely important for the congregation.

"It leads to peace and mutual edification," he said. "People have enough conflict in their lives without coming to church and having more." □

"We do have core values that we will not bend on, though, such as speaking in tongues."

Kent Williams
Pastor

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WESLEY FOUNDATION

Reorganized group fights off extinction

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Just one year ago, Missouri Southern's Wesley Foundation looked to be on the brink of extinction. The foundation, which is affiliated with the United Methodist Church, was in dire straits with only three active members participating in the group during the 1996 spring semester.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

WESLEY FOUNDATION

Adviser:
Dr. Charles Thelen
Phone number:
623-2796
When and Where:
Mondays
Wesley House

But now under the leadership of new director Monica Howard, who began her post in July, the organization is 35 members strong and growing.

Howard said she viewed her chal-

lenge as a fresh start.

"We kind of rebooted the whole thing," she said. "So, we started from the begin-

ning and worked our way up."

Now that the Wesley Foundation, under the direction of adviser Charles Thelen, professor of music at Southern, seems to be on solid ground, Howard said the foundation is focusing on giving students the opportunity to find friendly companions.

"Especially since we are such a large commuter college, we want to provide a place where students, no matter what their religion, can go, especially to students who find it hard to fit in," she said. "A lot of times those students will just take the risk and come out and try us for one activity."

Lisa King, a freshman biology major, said she appreciates how open everyone at the Wesley Foundation is to other people's ideas.

"If I was looking for friend, it would be a good place to go," King said. "It is a real open group. We have a lot of fun. Sometimes we can get a little hectic, but we are definitely a fun-loving group."

King said whenever she has a problem the first place she will go is to her friends at the foundation.

"A lot of my best friends are in Wesley, and they are definitely good advice



WESLEY FOUNDATION/Special to The Chart

Courtney Hulsey (center), a freshmen communications major and member of the Wesley Foundation, said the reason she joined the organization was to make new companions.

givers," she said. And the Wesley Foundation's members do seem to keep active. Sunday nights are scheduled for recreation and supper, with prayer and announcements on tap Wednesday nights. Howard said the group likes to gather for lunch every Thursday, and plans many other special activities as the months progress. Most in-house activities take place at the foundation's headquarters at 4715 E. Newman Road, just one mile north of the College.

"Our goal is to find a group of people who are very open and accepting to everyone," Howard said. "There aren't any requirements. You don't have to be a United Methodist. If you

want to come here and you aren't even interested, that is fine with me, too."

Courtney Hulsey, a freshman communications major, joined the foundation at the beginning of last semester for many reasons.

"I felt comfortable there because a lot of my friends are there," she said. "And we sing a lot of songs."

Some future plans for the foundation include many activities through its "Worship Team."

"We go out to different churches in the area and provide morning worship for them," Howard said. "We also have a trip in May. We are going to a camp in eastern Missouri to help paint their dining hall and lodge." □

CROSSLINES

Volunteer organization thrives on assisting hardships

By LINDA WHITED
STAFF WRITER

Thirteen years strong, Crosslines of Carthage and Joplin pulls community members through difficult financial hardships.

"I know legitimate emergency needs are being met on a daily basis," said Belle Lown, Carthage Crosslines director.

Needy Jasper County families were first helped by local churches. Later, area businesses became involved in the non-profit agency.

"When businesses found out Crosslines was a worthy steward of their money, business owners slowly started to fund us," Lown said.

Operating costs and clothing are funded by volunteer donations.

"We'll never know until we're in front of our Maker all the lives we've touched," Lown said.

Fifty Carthage volunteers assure smooth donation-site operations. The director and her assistants are paid a salary.

Crosslines furnishes eggs and color kits to elementary school children for Easter. Kindergarten through eighth-grade students receive back-to-school undergarments and school supplies.

"Children don't have to return to school with worn-down crayons and broken pencils," said Pat

Tamburrino, assistant director of Joplin Crosslines.

Crosslines provides a central clearing house so individuals do not have to go from church to church to meet their financial needs.

"Anytime you get a chance, notify a volunteer and we'll take you on a tour," Lown said. "Tell them you want to talk to Belle, and we'll show you the workings of Crosslines."

Carthage Crosslines is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

The organization averages 27 food requests a week. Forty-two families a month receive pantry items. Lown said the requests for food have almost doubled in the last year, and supplies are always welcome.

"We have a continual need for volunteers, food, clothing, furniture, household items, sheets, and towels," she said.

"Blankets are urgently needed. Sometimes during cold weather months we have to limit our recipients to one blanket apiece."

Lown speaks at any group or church. She believes the work she is doing is right for her.

"I am here because God called me here," she said. "There is no way to place a value on the community service rewards."

Tamburrino also finds fulfillment in helping the community.

"I feel gratified in being able to direct people to ser-

vices that make their lives more comfortable," she said. "It's also great to see people who are struggling get back on their feet."

Crosslines helps 900 area children obtain back-to-school supplies. One hundred-seventy families per month have "food shopping" privileges. Seven hundred families receive clothing assistance.

An inter-agency council refers the needy to a service program.

"For example, Lafayette House or Soul's Harbor assist our community needs," Tamburrino said.

More than 300 volunteers make up the staff at the west Jasper County location.

Fifty-eight Joplin churches call volunteers to fill the work schedules.

"We couldn't survive without our Crossline volunteers," Tamburrino said. "The volunteers are our backbone."

Tamburrino stresses Crosslines volunteering will be a rewarding experience if people get involved. Any denomination may participate in the program.

"The different denominational backgrounds work together for a common cause," she said. □

“It's also great to see people who are struggling get back on their feet.”

Pat Tamburrino
Assistant director,
Joplin Crosslines

”

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Should education involve religion?



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Students scamper to their respective buses for a ride home after classes were dismissed at Webb City Elementary School.

Critics believe separation based on personal interpretation

By STEPHANIE WARD
EDUCATION EDITOR

It is a battle that people have fought since this country was founded, the separation of church and state.

Early settlers of America fled Europe because they wanted religious freedom. Instead, they began requiring other people of their colonies to worship with them. This brought about the idea to establish laws concerning religion. The establishment clause in the Bill of Rights, originated by Thomas Jefferson, states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievance."

"Jefferson is the guy who built this wall of



Simpson

separation' between church and state," said Tom Simpson, assistant professor of political science at Missouri Southern. He said the separation is just an interpretation.

"It's only through interpretation that you arrive at that there should be a permanent separation of church and state," he said. "The idea of eradicating religious life from civic life is inconsistent with the kind of nation we are. It just doesn't make any sense."

Simpson said he doesn't think it was the intention of the framers to eradicate religion from public life. He said he thinks Jefferson, an agnostic, had some personal reasons for it.

Dr. Barry Brown, associate professor of philosophy, said he thinks it's important to keep church and state separate from each other. He said his reasons are probably the same as Thomas Jefferson's.

In a quote from John Stuart Mill's "The Tyranny and the Majority," Brown said, "It's the danger in a democracy where the majority rules, but...you need to protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority, according to Mill, and that's the purpose of the Bill of

Rights."

Brown said he served on a panel discussion at Missouri Southern about the separation of church and state in which an area superintendent spoke about Christmas pageants and the distribution of Bibles. The man said the majority of his students were Christians, to which Brown replied: "Why should we deny the majority for the few bad apples was the way he put it, which to me was the tyranny of the majority."

Brown said his wife, who taught as a substitute teacher, found there was more infiltration of specific religion in the classroom in this area than would be found in New York City, where he's from.

"I think the local community does influence schools in any area," said Dr. Vernon Hudson, superintendent of Joplin R-8 schools.

He said he thinks middle America is going to be more influenced.

"There are subjects that we will not talk about," Simpson said, "because they're so religion-related. I think that's just a little bit bankrupt on our part because we really should be

confronting all of these issues." Brown pointed out the fact that the phrase "In God We Trust" is still on currency and coins, Congress begins its sessions with a prayer, and the College is a state institution but offers invocations and prayers at commencement.

"To the extent that all politicians, in order to get elected, have to give at least lip service to religion," Brown said, "to that extent there is no separation of church and state."

Hudson said he thinks the main difference with these examples is that no one is forcing them upon people. A 16-year-old student, he said, is forced to do many things.

"We are under an obligation to make sure we do not enforce any particular religion upon students," Hudson said. "We are not a religious institution, and yet we educate people who are religious."

Simpson said he estimated that a larger percentage of the population attends church on a regular basis.

"The idea of separating that out from all of the other things you do in your life...it's just unrealistic," he said. □

Controversial public prayer forbidden in all public schools

By LESLIE ROBERTS
AUTOMOTIVE EDITOR

In the controversy of prayer in public schools, what the general public may not realize is that contrary to generally held belief, prayer is not forbidden in public schools.

A student can come early to class, sit quietly, and pray silently. Similarly, students are free to organize extra-curricular religious or prayer groups. They may hold their meetings on school property, advertise their group, and do other activities to the same extent as non-religious student groups.

But to require students of many different religious backgrounds to repeat a prayer of just one religion is clearly a violation of religious freedom. Christians would no doubt be just as offended if they were required to repeat an Islamic prayer as a Muslim would be if he or she was forced to repeat a Christian prayer. In addition, some Christians may regard an enforced

state-written prayer as a violation of freedom of religion as well, even though the prayer be Christian. "Personally, prayer itself is an option. I can pray anytime or anywhere I want to. That's a constitutional right," said Dan Shackelford, senior communications major at Missouri Southern. "But I don't agree with forced prayer. That's as much of an infringement on rights as not allowing prayer."

In addition to these dilemmas, any verbal prayer requirement would imply government support and special status for the religion from which the prayer sprang. Shackelford, who has been an ordained minister since 1967, most recently pastoring at the Miami (Okla.) Full Gospel Tabernacle, points out that prayer rituals are different from religion to religion and culture to culture.

"Native American prayer is totally different than Caucasian prayer. They use buds of the peyote bush — they feel they get better communication with God when they are out of their body

in a trance state," he said, pointing out that use of such a hallucinogen is not likely to be allowed in schools.

And even if the constituents of a certain school district agreed on a religion, say, Christian, the issue of what to pray about would be raised. More conservative Christian churches would perhaps want the prayer to deal with sin, Satan, hell, and the necessity of being "saved," while mainstream groups would want to write prayers that emphasize the love of God.

"I think that if a teacher wants to lead a prayer and those who wish to do so may join in, then that's OK," Shackelford said. "Students who didn't wish to join in would not have to, or they could pray in their own way during that time."

Gen. Colin Powell suggested a solution to these enigmas: a simple moment of silence.

This solution, supported by the National Prayer Project, would give students a moment to pray, meditate, contemplate, or study, depending on their beliefs. □

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

Wolfe says fellowship key for athletes



According to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes mission statement, the goal of the organization is to present athletes some insight into members' relations with God, Jesus, and the fellowship of their church.

FILE PHOTO

By JASON OWEN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Missouri Southern chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes is just one part of America's largest interdenominational youth ministry.

According to the group's mission statement, its goal is to present athletes, coaches, and others with some insight into members' relationships with God, Jesus, and the fellowship of their church.

Sponsor Cindy Wolfe said the group's mission statement should not be taken lightly.

"The mission statement is what FCA is all about," she said. "The most important thing to notice is 'and all whom they influence.' Athletes and coaches affect a lot of people."

"Athletes are role models. Maybe that should be so, or maybe it shouldn't, but that's just the way our society is. Our focus is on what type of role model these athletes should be."

Wolfe also believes fellowship among Christians is an important function of FCA.

"Hearing the word of God in laymen's terms really helps me to gain a better understanding of what the Bible means," she said. "Having others around me to bounce those ideas off of has really been a good experience for me, and I think anyone else would tell you they have benefited, too."

FCA member Lee Heinerikson agrees.

"I really enjoy the speakers that FCA brings

in, and the time we are able to spend just talking has really helped me in my walk with Christ," he said.

Wolfe said FCA has much to offer most students on campus.

"We view an athlete as anyone who has played a sport in the past, or who simply has a love for the game," she said. "FCA is centered around athletes and what they have to go through, but we welcome anyone."

Welcoming anyone, Wolfe said, would seem to be a major strength of this year's group.

"We have really become like one big family," she said. "This group loves each other and is very accepting. I have never seen them turn their backs on anybody."

With all of the focus on the serious side of things, one might be led to think that those involved in FCA don't know how to have a good time.

"It is really a fun atmosphere," Heinerikson said. "We play games, sing songs, and really cut loose. I always look forward to the meetings."

FCA meets at 6:30 p.m. every Thursday in the Billingsly Student Center lounge. □

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

FCA

Adviser:

Cindy Wolfe

Phone number:

625-9533

When and Where:

Thursdays, 6:15 p.m.
BSC Lounge

ECUMENICAL CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Members live in shadow of larger campus organizations

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

ECM

Adviser:

Dr. Gaye Pate

Phone number:

625-9362

When and Where:

Tuesdays, Thursdays
BSC Snack Bar

ECM College's oldest group focusing on Christian beliefs

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

While Koinonia and Baptist Student Union are probably what first comes to mind when campus ministries comes up, there is another group working more quietly in the background.

"What we really want to do is help the students," said Fred Pugh, president of the board of directors of Ecumenical Campus Ministries (ECM) and pastor of the First Christian Church in Joplin. "Historically, that is what we have always done."

Ecumenical means to embrace all religious denominations, and that is one of the goals of ECM, according to the Rev. Christine Iannucilli, board member and former campus chaplain for the group.

In the past, ECM was the only organized student Christian activity on campus and held 10 acres and a building near the stadium, Pugh said.

"When other Christian organizations became

a strong force on campus," he said,

"We stopped trying to compete with them and looked for other ways we could help the student body."

Approximately six years ago, ECM decided to sell the building and property to the College. The ministry now uses the interest on the money received in the sale to provide several scholarships to Missouri Southern, according to Iannucilli.

"We will provide a substantial scholarship to any Missouri Southern student who is intending on entering Christian ministry," Pugh explained.

There have been no recipients for the scholarship as this is the first full year the scholarship programs have been in effect, he said.

The campus crisis intervention fund also benefits from ECM. The group provides \$2,000 annually and receives a monthly update of how its money helps the campus.

"If someone can't afford books, can't pay their light bill, or maybe needs a plane ticket home in an emergency, our money helps," Pugh said.

The group also makes it possible for two students to attend the Governor's Leadership Forum: Faith and Values and Leadership, Iannucilli said.

"With the money from ECM we were able to send six students instead of just four to the forum this year," said Christy Phillips, secretary to Southern's dean of students.

Another project ECM is becoming involved with is the United Nations Peacekeeping Conference, sponsored by the Presbyterian church, according to Iannucilli.

The ministry will send one student to the two-week seminar every year, she said.

"The conference will be of great benefit to the student who attends," said Dr. Paul Teverow, professor of history and faculty adviser for the Missouri Southern Model United Nations club, which will administer the scholarship.

"It will also play a big role in the College's international mission."

ECM is now run in an endowment-type manner, meaning the board of directors meets only when necessary, Pugh explained. The active churches include the First Christian Church, First Community Church, and Bethany Presbyterian, he said.

"While we have changed a lot of the years," Pugh said, "we are still continuing to help the students of Missouri Southern."

For more information concerning the ECM organization contact its adviser. □

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIONS

Beliefs stem from cultural backgrounds



Gubera

More than 300 religions exist throughout world

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ARTS ETC. EDITOR

God is in the eye of the beholder, or actually he is in the religion of the beholder.

The people of this world have many religions and many gods to go along with those religions. The reason there are so many religions is because there are so many cultures in the world.

"The reason we have world religions is because people, everywhere, think," said Dr. Conrad Gubera, professor of sociology at Missouri Southern.

"People everywhere wonder why the sky is blue.

Why does the sun come up and go down? What happens when we die? The miracle of birth, why this and why that... and if they don't have any science to explain it... or some other kind of explanation, they'll explain it in their religious teachings."

The United States is a country of cultural diversity like no other. Because of this, it is a country of diverse religions.

"Many countries have people whose parents and grandparents and great-grandparents go back for generations of

hundreds of years of living in the country," Gubera said. "Most countries aren't made up of immigrants like we are... who brought with them many different backgrounds, many different religions, many ways of answering the questions we all have.

"When you have a country like the United States that has blended together so many people from all over the world, you're going to get religious differences, whether you want them or not, and you're going to have to live with them."

The U.S. has people of more different religions than any other country.

"We have at least 300 religions in the U.S.," Gubera said. "I've seen that figure consistently.

"I'm talking about denominations and sects, not cults," he said. "That's a lot of diversity, and we're not even sure we have all those. That's just the ones that will make themselves known to the National Council of Churches. We have no idea how many cults are in the U.S."

With more than 300 religions in this country alone, Gubera wouldn't try to estimate how many international religions might exist.

The 1997 World Almanac, however, gives a world population of more than 5.7 billion. Christianity is the dominant international religion, with more than

1.9 billion followers worldwide.

International students of different religions attending Missouri Southern might have a hard time practicing their religious customs.

The Joplin phone book has three pages of churches, most of whom are denominations of Christianity. There are no temples listed for followers of Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, or Hindu beliefs.

About the only way for these people to attend services would be to travel to a larger city.

"Immigrants from other countries tend to live in bigger cities, like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia..." said Dr. Allen Merriam, professor of communications.

"Oftentimes in those larger cities, even medium-sized cities, there are Islamic mosques, Jewish temples, Buddhist temples available.

"Kansas City has an Islamic mosque, for Muslims, Columbia has one, and Tulsa has one," he said.

"There's a Hindu society in St. Louis and a Hindu temple in Kansas City, so usually if they (people with other religious beliefs) are in a fairly populated area, there would be enough people of their religion that there might be a building where they could go for programs or worship." □

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIONS

Christians	1,927,953,000
Roman Catholics	968,025,000
Protestants	395,867,000
Orthodox	217,948,000
Anglicans	70,530,000
Other Christians	275,583,000
Atheists	219,925,000
Baha'is	6,104,000
Buddhists	323,834,000
Chinese Folk	225,137,000
Confucians	5,254,000
Ethnic	111,777,000
Religionists	780,547,000
Hindus	4,686,000
Jains	14,117,000
Jews	44,000
Mandeans	1,099,634,000
Muslims	121,297,000
New-Religionists	841,543,000
Nonreligious	139,000
Parsees	19,151,000
Sikhs	2,844,000
Shintoists	10,190,000
Spiritists	1,823,000
Other religionists	3,788,472,000
Non-Christians	5,715,425,000

REVIVALS

Fires continue to spread across spiritually dry plains

By TERESA BLAND
STAFF WRITER

Fires of a Pentecostal type continue to burn at the First Assembly of God Church in Miami, Okla., as a revival enters its 20th week.

Evangelist John Davis, an ambassador for the "Pensacola Outpouring," is ministering at the revival.

The "Pensacola Outpouring" was birthed on Father's Day, 1995, at the Brownsville Assembly of God Church in Pensacola, Fla., and the revival fires have continued to spread like wildfire across the spiritually dry plains of the U.S.

"Last August, we attended the revival at Pensacola and, while we were there, I was introduced to John Davis," said Gerald Baser, First Assembly senior pastor. "From that time, I had been corresponding with him and it developed into a commitment from him to join us on Oct. 20, 1996.

"We've now been in revival for over four months." Church secre-

tary Cheryl Countryman estimates more than 10,000 people have given their hearts to God since the Miami revival started.

"We have also seen miracles of healings," she said.

"Bodies have been healed as well as marriages."

Baser said he believes the spreading revival is the fulfilling of biblical prophecy before the "taking away," or rapture, of the church.

"When Peter began to explain the outpouring on the Day of Pentecost, he just simply let them know that God would pour out his spirit on all flesh," he said. "It's the last-day outpouring, and we're right in the middle of it."

People from all over the world are traveling to Pensacola to experience the move of God, and Baser said the Miami church has had visitors from all over the four-state area. He believes the visitors are helping to spread the "good news."

"We are witnessing God moving not only here, but in several churches across the states of Oklahoma,

Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas. Many of them (representatives from other churches) have been here, taken the revival back with them, and revival is breaking out in their church."

The Miami church auditorium was built to seat 800 people, but Baser said the front-row pews had to be removed for more altar space, limiting the number of seats to 750.

"The crowds have been phenomenal and the church has been packed time after time," he said. "At least a third of the congregation are visitors, so when the invitation is given to come and repent, the whole altar area is filled and people are backed down the aisles."

In his 43 years of ministry, Baser said he has never been involved in a revival that has had such tremendous response or has lasted for so long.

"We've had showers of blessings, we've had times of refreshing, and times that many souls have been birthed into the family of God, but not on this scale. Maybe three, four,

or five at a time would come forward to repent. With this one, there is hardly a service but what there are 100 to 200 people who will respond."

No closing date for the revival has been determined at this time.

"We're scheduled through the end of April and, if the Lord so moves, we'll go on through the month of May," Baser said.

Though most of the larger revivals are taking place in Assembly of God churches, Baser said it is not just an Assembly of God visitation.

"As far as being able to claim the honor and the blessings for this, there is no way," he said. "It's a divine move of the Holy Spirit for this hour."

Revival services are held at 10:40 a.m. and 6 p.m. each Sunday as well as 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

"There has been a lot of repenting and a lot of lives changed," Baser said.

"This is what revival is, it's a revival of changed lives.

"It's a God thing." □

66

We have also seen miracles of healings. Bodies have been healed as well as marriages.

Cheryl Countryman
Church secretary

99

KOINONIA

Members of Koinonia gather for lunch in Stegge Hall. The group meets for lunch every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

GINNY DUMOND/
The Chart



RELIGIOUS
GROUPS

KOINONIA

Adviser:

David Weaver

Phone number:

781-5683

When and Where:

Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
College Heights

Members celebrate 30 years

By GINNY DUMOND
CAMPUS EDITOR

After 30 years at Missouri Southern, Koinonia Campus Ministry is still thriving with more membership than any other campus organization.

Students getting serious about their walk with the Lord and committing to the organization have largely contributed to making Koinonia so successful, according to David Weaver, campus minister.

"Students who poured their lives into making this group happen during their four years at Southern are what has kept us strong," he said.

Weaver said students' willingness to work diligently for the group comes from God.

"We really rely on the Lord to move students toward service and having a compassion toward

others," he said. Weaver, who has served as campus minister since 1989, said it is difficult to define what Koinonia means to the campus.

"It means so many things to so many people," he said. "I think we provide a positive peer group, which can really help students through some difficult times."

Weaver says the group impacts the campus both indirectly and directly.

"We've said it's OK to be a Christian," he said. "Five hundred to 600 students come to our group one or more times."

Laura Wilhelm, junior biology major and Koinonia treasurer, said the group has made a tremendous impact on her college experience.

"Koinonia has given me more than I can say," she said. "It has helped me help other people and grow so much in my relationship with the Lord." □

CATHOLIC RELIGION

Tradition surrounds religion

By SCOTT HAAR
STAFF WRITER

For more than two thousand years the Roman Catholic Church has drawn stability and respect from a rich tradition surrounding the organization's religious structure.

Some people believe change in tradition is needed.

"Sometimes necessity invents change," said the Rev. Raymond Kunkel, pastor of St. Mary's Church in Joplin.

A priest shortage in this country has opened the eyes of many Catholics to the idea of matrimony for ordained members of the faith.

"For the first 800 years priests could be married," said the Rev. John Harth, pastor of St. Canara Catholic Church in Neosho. "Somewhere along the line, rules were established and celibacy was included into a priest's requirements."

Kunkel said the pope could change the rule at anytime. He believes, though, the change will not come in his lifetime.

Harth also believes changes will happen, but "not with this pope."

"It is about time they do it," said Greg Green, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Webb City.

Other alternatives to the priest shortage include increased activity from the laity and possibly the ordination of women.

"I think you will see women being ordained before male priests are allowed to be married," Kunkel said.

Kunkel said a priest has many responsibilities besides the spiritual side of the church, such as financial obligations and marriage counseling.

He said family life for a priest would be difficult to tackle because of these duties.

Catholics have mixed thoughts regarding these issues.

"I think priest marriages would be good, but I am not in favor of women becoming priests," said Erin Feathers, a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Feathers said she cannot explain her feelings and attributes them to tradition within the Catholic Church.

Catholicism has a rich tradition in the area.

Harth said from parochial schools to hospitals, the Catholic Church has helped others. He believes the process will continue into the future.

"People are beginning to realize the greater importance of spiritual happiness, such as the presence of healing and outreach," Harth said. □

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Organization believes in witnessing gospel

Roten founded College group in 1962

By HEATHER DEMIER
STAFF WRITER

Fellowships, retreats, Bible studies, and mission trips are just some of the many activities the Baptist Student Union offers.

The BSU is a campus organization open to all students regardless of faith or denomination. It was founded in 1962 by Leonard Roten.

Duane Johnson, freshman political science major, says his favorite thing about the BSU is the fellowship.

"It's a lot of fun to get there and be around people that you share the same values and morals with," he said.

Witnessing the gospel to other people is "probably the best activity we have because that's kind of our mission," Johnson said. "Last Thursday night we went witnessing in dorms, and this Thursday night we are having lip sync night."

Johnson says, "I don't think it's really important what church you go to, but I do think it's important you do go to church to have that relationship with other Christians and to actually learn more."

Victor Boll, Baptist Student Union director, lets students lead the ministry.

"It's students who actually do the ministry. You might see me as a coach on the side-line who coaches the team into the game," Boll said.

The group went to Panama City Beach, Fla., for a "Beach Reach" program over spring break.

Around 300 college students from Baptist Student Unions across the country joined them for such activities as witnessing on the beach, pancake feeds, and fun in the sun.

"Students are specifically doing those activities for the purpose of sharing the gospel," Boll said. "In preparation for spring break,

I took the students through how to share your testimony and faith with another person who is not a Christian."

The BSU is located behind the residence halls on Duquesne Road next to Fastrip. Students can join the BSU on Mondays at 7 p.m. for Bible study. □

RELIGIOUS
GROUPS

BAPTIST STUDENT
UNION

Adviser:

Victor Boll

Phone number:

624-0925

When and Where:

Mondays, 7 p.m.
Union Building

SALVATION ARMY

Volunteers provide aid for children, community

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Amid the rustle of paper bags, Kevin Black quickly moves about as he fills a food order at the Salvation Army facility in Joplin.

Black, an employee and member of the church of the Salvation Army, has a multitude of duties. A case worker, receptionist, and coordinator of volunteers, he admits the scene can become hectic. Between the continuous string of telephone calls, Black counsels people requesting assistance; takes orders for food, and answers coworkers' questions. As the youth coordinator, he organizes an open gym on the first Friday of the month.

"We're going to be opening the gym to kids in the neighborhood and teenagers around town to give them someplace to go on Friday nights besides the pool halls and things," Black said.

For some, the name Salvation Army conjures up images of people ringing a bell while standing beside a red kettle. This is one of the organization's primary Christmas campaigns. Help also comes from direct mail appeals, government grants, charitable organizations, and individual trusts.

The motivation of the Salvation Army is a love of God and a practical concern for the needs of humanity.

Currently, the "Center of Hope" at Eighth and Kentucky provides a free meal every afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30. A food pantry gives a helping hand to needy individuals, and assistance is available for utilities and housing. Clothing, furniture, transportation, medications, and disaster and emergency service are also provided.

The Family Living Center opened at the facility in January to provide shelter for families in transition.

"It's designed to get your GED if you need it, get you employed, find you someplace to live, and teach you how to make it on your own," Black said.

Already full with eight families, a waiting list is available based on need. Families at the shelter have assigned chores and help at the facility. Numerous city and church organizations also volunteer time at the Salvation Army.

"We couldn't survive without our volunteers," Black said.

Susie Frogge, a parishioner of St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Joplin, became a volunteer three years ago at the urging of her priest. As a member of the local Salvation Army's advisory board, she sees firsthand the constant need for help and the church members' involvement.

"I don't know how they get everything done," she said. "They work 24 hour days, seven days a week. It really is a multifaceted thing. It doesn't matter what church you go to, they need the volunteers."

Frogge said volunteering gives her the opportunity to help someone else. She said the need for volunteers is great as she quickly recites the office telephone number: "just call 624-4528."

Besides community service, regular church services are conducted each Sunday. Adult and youth fellowships are held during the week.

Black said the church believes the foundation of the organization is, as salvationists, to win souls for Jesus Christ. Of the many individuals who come through the doors of the Salvation Army, not every case is a success.

"The general idea behind our social work is to give us an opportunity to witness to them spiritually — meet their physical needs and their spiritual needs," he said.

Frogge supports this philosophy. She holds the local Salvation Army's church leaders, Capt. Michael Thomas and his wife, Capt. Mary Thomas, in high regard.

"None of them are in it for the thanks, but in it to help people," she said.

"They truly believe this is what God wants them to be."

What is

FAITH?

Faith's definition differs between individuals, but its use is undisputable

By AILEEN GRONEWOLD
STAFF WRITER



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Dr. Pat Kluthe, assistant director of the honors program, walks with honors student Amy Graves, junior biology/physical therapy major.

themselves places of rest there and lay eggs, and care for her shadow of her wings; and they will gather

... the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Apostle Paul

34:1 Isaiah
Isaiah's book include and leaders of his day prophet, Isaiah had a he wrote an account

According to the Apostle Paul, faith is "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." But what is faith to us today, and how does it influence day-to-day life? Several faculty and students addressed these questions.

For Dr. Pat Kluthe, assistant director of the honors program, and Dr. Al Carnine, associate professor of music, Paul's definition is just as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago.

"Based on this definition, I would have to dispute Kierkegaard's 'leap of faith,' because faith is not blind; there is evidence," said Kluthe. "In my experience, faith is invisible, yet it has substance and evidence."

Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English, and Rachel Sage, senior English major, defined faith as a center or core from which life emanates.

"Faith is something around which your life is centered," Walters said. "For me, that center is God."

"I think it's about seeing the world as being whole and having some central goodness at the core," said Sage. "I equate that center with God, but other people might see it as something else. To me, God is the epitome of wholeness."

Regardless of variations in definition, each respondent viewed faith as an integral part of day-to-day life, even if that faith is not in God.

"Faith totally shapes who you are and what you do," said Walters. "Even if your faith is in the human intellect, it will shape who you are and what you do."

Much of the impact of spiritual faith centers in our perceptions of ourselves and how we find significance in life.

"Faith in God frees me from the fear of making mistakes in my vocation as well as not measuring up to the world's standards of success," said Carnine. "It helps me put into perspective the insignificance of my own self-importance and allows me to concentrate on helping others, which is the better endeavor to pursue."

"It makes a difference if you see the world as having some order," said Sage. "I don't know how I would think of myself if I thought I was just another accidental organism."

Several people viewed spiritual faith as one of three links in a chain, the other two being hope and love.

"We are told to 'love the Lord your God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself,' so love is the defining factor," said Walters. "As Paul said, everything else fails."

"When I look back on the very worst times of my life," said Kluthe, "I had a peace that could not be explained. Faith did not keep me from pain, but it kept me from despair. Because I am a person of faith, I am a person who lives with hope."

Melinda Bayless, freshman education major, would add another link to the chain, the link of joy or contentment.

"If I only had faith in what I see and know, I would be miserable and confused and disappointed," she said. "But I know God sees the big picture, and even when I don't understand, I can trust him for the outcome." □

"Time and unforeseen occurrences befall us all."

Lightning strikes Kingdom Hall

Congregation plans
to rebuild after disaster

By RYAN BRONSON
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Lord works in mysterious ways. Last week's thunderstorm unleashed a bolt of lightning that struck the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses east of Baxter Springs, Kan., and subsequently burned the chapel into rubble.

According to Deputy Fire Chief Art Mallory, an unidentified man noticed the fire while driving on U.S. Highway 166. The man drove into town to report the blaze at 2:13 a.m. Tuesday, March 25.

Floyd Cox, presiding overseer of the congregation, said the building was beyond salvaging by the time fire crews arrived at the scene.

"It was probably an hour and a half [after the lightning struck] before they got here," said Cox, who estimated the fire starting between 12:30 and 1 a.m. "By the time we got here — I got here about 2:30 — the roof and everything else was all pretty well gone."

"It took us maybe two or three minutes to get there after we got word," Mallory said.

Mallory said the department had several firefighters at the Baxter firehouse when the report came in because of an earlier house fire.

"The timing couldn't have been any better," he said.

Mallory said the building was in bad shape when firefighters arrived.

"When we got there, the walls were



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

A bulldozer, driven by Baxter Springs' Mike Lewis, tears down a piece of the roof which had settled against a wall at Kingdom Hall.

standing and that was about it," he said. "The roof was almost completely gone."

Cox said the congregation plans to rebuild the Hall in the same location, a \$170,000 project that could be completed within the next six weeks.

"We'll just doze all this off, get it all

clear, and come back with a new building," Cox said.

The congregation lost hundreds of books and publications from a library inside the building, as well as the sound system, which will all be replaced. The building was covered by insurance, so finances should not be a major problem, Cox said.

"As far as reaction to it, it was kind of a shock to everybody," Cox said. "As far as response to it, the response, cooperation and the willingness to help work has been great."

"By 6 a.m. yesterday, I was already getting phone calls from local congregations around Joplin, Columbus, Miami, Pittsburg — just telling us that they were available with whatever we needed whether it be finances or labor or whatever. You just say the word and they're here."

Clean-up crews were already working on the site last Wednesday afternoon with the help of a bulldozer sent over from Pittsburg, Kan., and Cox said more help was on the way.

"We've got another front loader and tractor coming from Lamar," he said.

"It was kind of a shock to everybody."

Floyd Cox
Overseer of congregation

"Everyone is working together real well."

The Hall was built in 1992 after the congregation outgrew its building in downtown Baxter. The loss of the building will not affect the congregation's meetings aside from the fact that the meetings will be held at a different location, Cox said.

"We didn't have any meetings scheduled for this week," he said. "What we'll do until our Kingdom Hall is built is we'll use another Kingdom Hall on the days when [other area congregations] aren't using it."

Cox said he didn't necessarily look at the incident as a sign from the Almighty.

"It's just something that happened," he said. "I would just say what Solomon said in Ecclesiastes that time and unforeseen occurrences befall us all." □



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

The urinals were only a small percentage of the items deemed useless by the fire.

PRAYING HANDS

Grad shapes sculpture

By GINNY DUMOND
CAMPUS EDITOR

Traveling through Webb City on Highway 71, one can hardly miss the massive sculpture of praying hands blocking the skyline.

The sculpture, the work of Missouri Southern graduate and 1973 Outstanding Alumnus Jack Dawson, is a popular attraction for people from many different backgrounds.

Erma Stoker, secretary of the Webb City Chamber of Commerce, said the sculpture attracts a large audience from travelers outside the four-state area.

"People from other countries will come here on business and stop at the park," she said. "They've never seen anything like it."

King Jack Park in Webb City, where the hands are located, has become a meeting place for groups on special days of prayer.

"We nearly always have people who come here to celebrate on Good Friday," Stoker said.

The building of the sculpture, which was supported by several community organizations including the historical society, area churches, and the Boy Scouts, has become a focal point for religion in the area, Stoker said.

"It is an example to people in the area," she said. "It reminds people of what Sunday is all about."

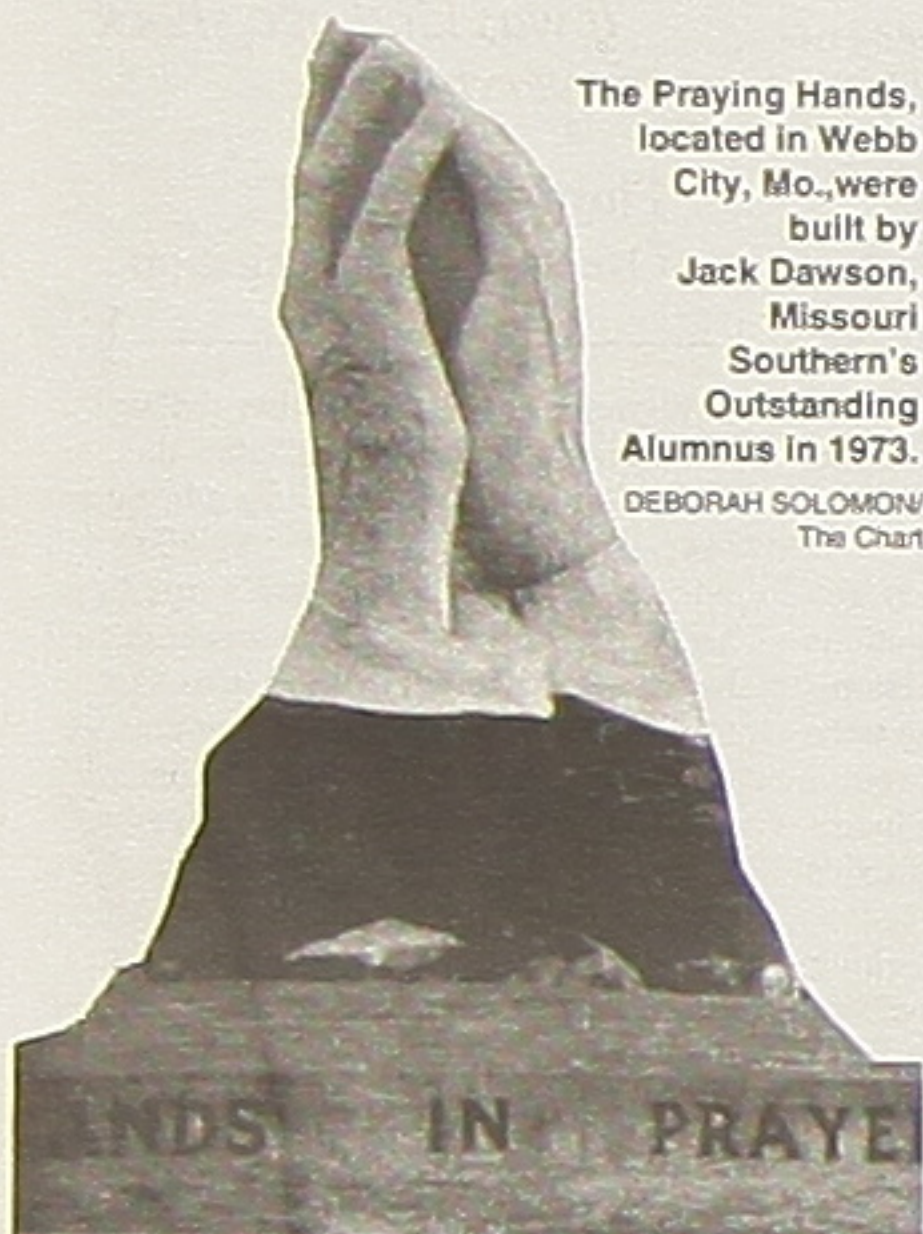
The 32-foot, 110-ton work took 14 months to construct and is supported with steel beams and laths. The outside is covered with three coats of stucco and coated with white quartz.

The Webb City Chamber of Commerce is positioned right next to the park, and Stoker said people driving by often come in to ask about the sculpture.

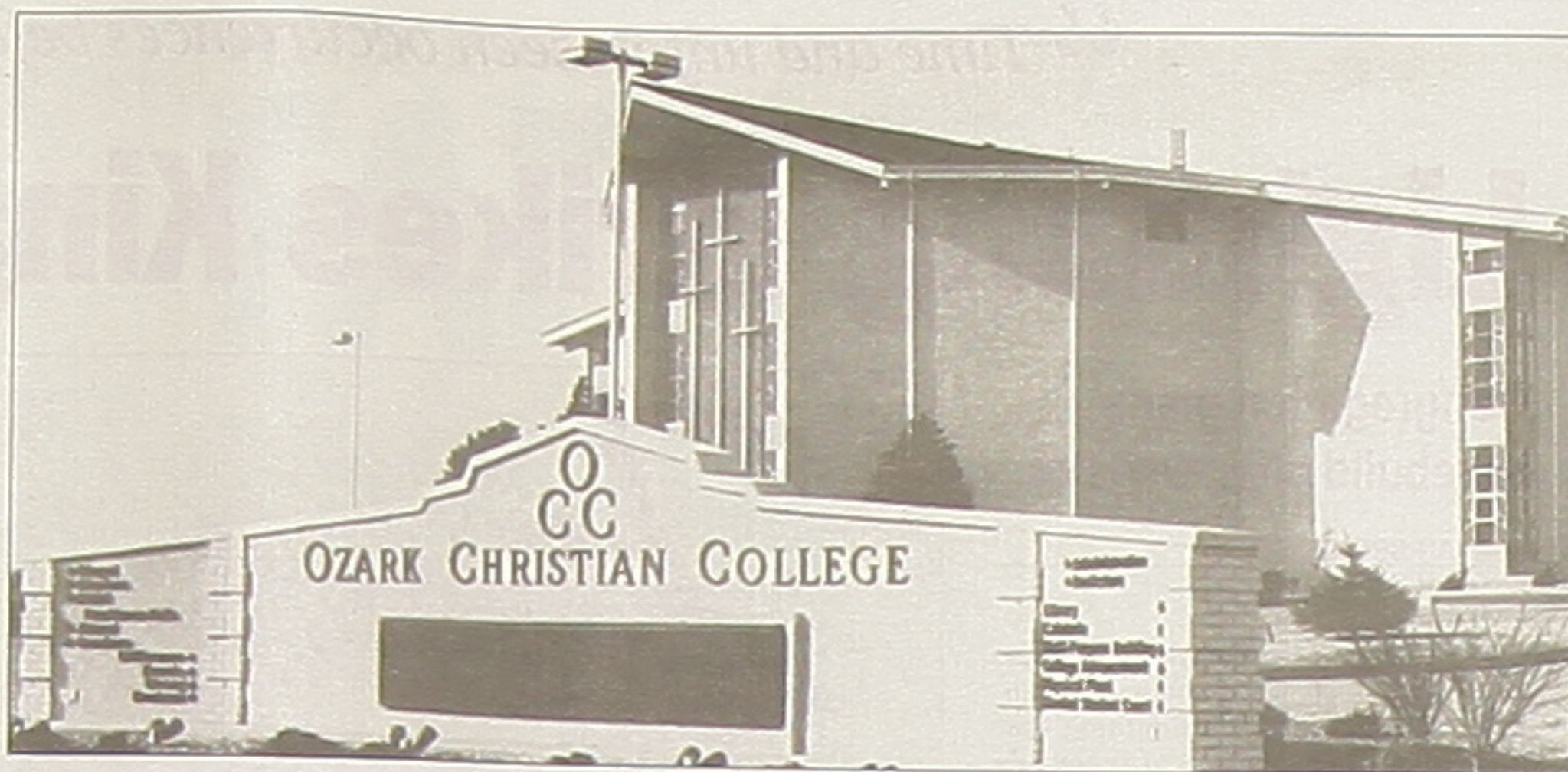
"There are always people coming in," she said. "It's a very unique attraction." While the hands provide a point of interest for passers-by, they have become a community symbol of religion in the four-state area. □

The Praying Hands, located in Webb City, Mo., were built by Jack Dawson, Missouri Southern's Outstanding Alumnus in 1973.

DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart



HIGHER EDUCATION



DEBORAH SOLOMON/The Chart

Ozark Christian College, located at 1111 N. Main St. in Joplin, has been operating at its current location since 1960.

Not just academics: Spiritual studies focus of OCC, Messenger

OCC's numbers continue to rise; Messenger celebrates 10 years

By RICK ROGERS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Providing a solid education along with teaching the word of God is the primary focus for two religious higher education institutions in the Joplin community.

Ozark Christian College, located at 1111 N. Main St., is a private institution that began operations in Bentonville, Ark., in 1942. OCC moved to Joplin in 1944 and has been operating at its current location since 1960.

OCC is currently home to 661 students. Dr. Ken Idleman, president of Ozark Christian College for 18 years, said that number should continue to rise next fall.

"Our enrollment has increased eight out of the past nine years," Idleman said. "Our graduates are currently living in 40 countries around the globe and working in 100 countries worldwide."

OCC, a nondenominational organization, does share something in common with Missouri Southern.

"We are committed to upholding the world mission," Idleman said. "We do, here at OCC, recognize the global perspective."

Idleman said the main focus of OCC is to prepare its students to become good Christian leaders after graduation.

"We want to do that in both the vocational and non-vocational aspects," he said. "We also want them to have a more literally personal faith and along with that, knowledge of the Bible. The Bible being unique among all books."

One unique aspect of OCC is the fact that it has had only four persons serve as president in 55 years. Idleman said that is just one example of the stability OCC provides.

"I think the reason why we have such a positive reputation in the community is because we make for a positive presence in the work force. Our student body is very diverse and broad."

OCC offers degrees in preacher ministries, youth ministries, music ministries, and mission. It also provides specializations in communications and counseling, along with a co-op with Southern in elementary and secondary education. Tuition at OCC is \$95 per credit hour.

Larry Martin, president of Joplin's Messenger College, said the motto of his college is to provide a quality academic education in a spirit-filled environment. He also said one reason why students like to attend Messenger is because of its small student-to-teacher ratio. Currently, Messenger, a private institution that began in 1987, serves only 99 students.

"We are proud of two things," Martin said. "One being that the school is so small. This gives the opportunity for students to interact, not only with their teachers, but also with the administrators. The other important aspect to us is the spiritually life of the school."

Martin did say there are some obstacles to overcome when a college is as small as Messenger. "We are funded through our local churches and districts and our general organization, the Pentecostal Church of God," Martin said.

"Obviously funding is a major problem because we are so small."

Tuition at Messenger College is \$90 per credit hour. The institution offers majors in Christian education, music, pastoral ministry, mission, biblical studies, and an associate's degree in general studies. □

"We also want them to have a more literally personal faith and along with that knowledge of the Bible."

Dr. Ken Idleman
President, Ozark Christian College

Deaf members see, hear Boyd's message

Voice of God leads pastor to preach, learn sign language

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Most preachers have a hard enough time keeping the congregation's attention, but for a preacher whose flock can't hear, the job becomes even tougher.

Brenda Boyd, pastor of Hands of Praise Deaf Ministries, can hear the sound of the pages of a bible or hymnal turning; however, most of the faces in the pews cannot. Although the sound of her voice may fall on deaf ears, her words can be heard as her arms and hands flutter about to form an unusual rendition of the gospel.

"It's basically a deaf church except for me," Boyd said.

Besides Boyd, the two Sunday school teachers at the church can also hear, but she said that's about all.

This is not a new idea. Churches for the deaf are all over the nation. There's even one in Springfield. Boyd said she started the church after hearing from a higher power.

"God asked me to," Boyd said. "Twenty-one years ago I lived in New York. The Lord told me to learn sign language. I wondered why he kept pressing on me to do that."

"I had no idea what would come of it."

What came out of it was a gift to many hearing-impaired area Christians, but it wasn't simple. It all began in December of 1994.

Boyd said the congregation was at first leery of a hearing person leading a group living in an almost completely different world.

"When I first went in, there was no trust," she said. "They had to get to know me. They came against me to see how I'd react." However, it was a member of the congregation that eventually brought them together. Carol Roper, now the song leader at the chapel, became the intermediary between Boyd and the flock.

"I feel we've got a good relationship," Boyd said of the congregation.

Boyd didn't start out wanting to be a preacher.

It was divine inspiration prompting her to start the ministry, but she wasn't happy about it.

"I knew I was supposed to work in deaf ministries," she said. "I

looked in bigger cities, but nothing seemed to be right. He said, 'I want you to start a church in Joplin.' Which I wasn't real pleased with because I'm not a preacher."

Boyd is now — whether she wants it or not.

She can be seen — and occasionally heard — in the pulpit at Christ's Community United Methodist Church in Joplin at 10:45 a.m. on Sundays.

The church lends the group a small chapel in the annex of the church for services. The tiny chapel is perfect for the congregation, Boyd said.

It's seats are arranged in a horse-shoe formation so everyone can see the pastor give her sermon.

The flock is given space at the church and would like to start Bible studies, but for now they have to stick to other functions.

"We've had special services and get-togethers with the deaf church in Springfield," Boyd said.

Life in this church is different in many ways, she said. It is life, not the lack of sound that makes the difference.

"It's not just the language, it's the culture that is different," she said. "A lot of people think it's all the same, but it's not." □



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Brenda Boyd leads a congregation of deaf parishioners every Sunday in an annex at Christ's Community United Methodist Church in Joplin.

CAPITOL

Chaplains bridge gap between government, religion

By TAMMY SPICER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. —

Two chaplains simultaneously stand before two different groups of people in the same building, both addressing men and women from all over the state of Missouri.

At the Capitol, the Rev. G. Dale Norfolk serves as the Senate chaplain, and the Rev. Hugh Behan is the chaplain for the House of Representatives. Behan shares his responsibilities with the Rev. Cheryl Tatham, the only female ever to hold the chaplain position.

"I feel I am a bridge between the world of religion and the real world of government," Behan said. "I have the opportunity to bring the message of religion to a very special forum."

Each House and Senate session opens with a prayer from its respective chaplain.

"I feel it (prayer) is one of the greatest heritages of our system of government," Norfolk said.

He said Lt. Gov. Roger Wilson once told him he could point to times when the prayer has made a difference to the group.

In addition to the daily prayer, the chaplains are also called upon to officiate weddings and bap-

tisms, and talk with Capitol visitors.

Norfolk also participates in a monthly prayer breakfast with senators.

"I am one person who is not asking anything of them," Norfolk said. "I'm there to be their pastor away from home."

Behan said he tries to put a real-world feel into many of his prayers. When the news of the successful sheep cloning in Scotland was announced in late February, he ended a prayer focusing on the ethical implications. "Meanwhile, cloning sheep might be OK, but for us humans, it is a baaaaad idea. Amen," he said.

Norfolk said the chaplain is elected by the legislature every two years, with the majority party making the choice and the minority party giving support.

In addition to their Capitol duties, Norfolk and Behan have full-time positions outside the statehouse. Norfolk, who has been with the Senate for 25 years, works in public relations for the Missouri Baptist Children's Home. Behan, who has been chaplain for the House for 26 years, is the editor of the *Catholic Missourian*, a weekly newspaper.

"I plan on doing this for as long as I am physically and mentally able," Norfolk said. □



TAMMY SPICER/The Chart

Rev. G. Dale Norfolk is currently serving as chaplain for the Missouri Senate.

SCIENTOLOGY

Church garners respect among many

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

It has been met with resistance almost since its inception 40 years ago, but it has gained the respect of the federal government and many other religious organizations.

It is the Church of Scientology.

The church is noted more for its celebrity members than anything else, except for its now famous battles with the federal government over its tax exemption status — which it has finally been granted.

"Scientology addresses the spirit — not

simply the body or mind — and is therefore completely apart from materialistic philosophies which hold that man is a product of his environment — or his genes," says a paragraph in the church's guidebook.

The 590-page guidebook addresses many questions the church is asked. It is given to media outlets, and interviews are often not granted. The church has become leery of the press over the years with several stories putting the church in a harsh light.

L. Ron Hubbard founded the church, which believes in "religious toleration and religious diversity," in 1956. It has faced court battles, public relations battles, and

any other type of persecution usually directed at new organizations that subscribe to a different religious ideas.

The first run-in with the federal government came in 1963 when, according to the church, "the founding Church of Scientology in Washington, D.C. was desecrated by federal marshals."

In the guidebook, a passage discusses the church's battles. Those incidents have even been international.

Currently, the church is widely accepted, mainly in larger metropolitan areas. Due to such members as actors Tom Cruise, John Travolta, Anne Archer, Kelly Preston, and

Nicole Kidman, the interest in Scientology keeps growing. The church reports some eight million members internationally.

"As a Scientologist I have the technology to handle life's problems and I have used this to help others in life as well," Travolta said in a testimonial in the guidebook.

Travolta has been involved with Scientology since 1975, he said.

The movement grew out of Hubbard's book *Dianetics*.

The book gained momentum in the 1980s with the self-help movement in full swing. The book is touted as the best-selling self-help book ever. □

SMALL COMMUNITIES

Churches duties more than norm

By MICHELLE CONTY
ASSISTANT ARTS ETC. EDITOR

Although times have changed, the role of the church in small town communities has not. The church is still the focal point of many people's lives and a place for them to go in a time of need.

"If someone has a need, they can talk to me or one of the other members of the church, and we will talk to the treasurer," said the Rev. Phil Abbott of the Liberal (Mo.) Christian Church. "We would like for them to pay back the money if possible, but most is not repaid."

Sometimes it is a utility bill; other times it is medical expenses.

Occasionally, people in the community will have a special need, and the churches in the area hold fund-raisers and auctions.

Father Ted Skalsky of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Pratt, Kan., told of a soup-dinner that raised \$4,000 to \$5,000 for a woman with cancer.

"In smaller communities, there is usually less mistrust; everyone knows each other," Skalsky said.

Skalsky told another story where the church and the town came together to help those in need.

Not long ago, a family was rebuilding an old home in Pratt. The daughter became ill, and doctors discovered a brain tumor. It was getting later in the year, and their house did not have a furnace. The parish of Sacred Heart Church and the community came together to put a furnace in the house before winter.

In Liberal, the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church operates a clothing store for the needy in the area.

The Liberal Christian Church is involved with the Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) program. The program shows mothers the resources that are available to help them raise children.

Both the Liberal Christian Church and the Sacred Heart Church visit homebound senior citizens, care centers, and hospitals on a regular basis.

The church also pools canned goods and nonperishable items around the holiday season to help the needy.

"This year we are going to be having a friend day to reach out to those who have no church homes," Abbott said.

Betsy Koontz, the Pratt city clerk, said the town is church-



Daniel Wilson (left) and Brittany Wilson of Carl Junction pray while visiting the Love Elm Pentecostal Church in Carl Junction.

minded. She attends the Free Methodist Church, where there is an after-school program for children. The church-sponsored women's

group works with the Red Cross Food Bank. Her church is

involved with sending missionaries to work in the southern United States, Mexico, and Peru.

Skalsky is learning Spanish in order to better communicate with the Hispanics moving into the area. Three years ago, he spent a month in Honduras and a month last winter in the Dominican Republic.

Sister Francine Schwarzenberger of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church has worked with Habitat for Humanity since 1982. She also has worked during the Jimmy Carter Work Week every year.

"Last year, a group from the parish worked with Mennonite housing in Wichita, Kan. We readied homes for painting in the spring and went back in September to paint them," she said. "We do it for people who can't afford to do it on their own."

"Some of the most exciting work I'm in is studying and doing preliminary research on low-income housing in Garden City, Kan.," Schwarzenberger said.

Jeff Taylor, mayor of Pratt, said the church he and his family belong to, Disciples of Church Christian Church, is known in the community for its food bank and clothing pantry.

"In a small community, it seems everyone gets together, pulling together to help someone in a time of need," Taylor said. □



Love Elm Pentecostal Church in Carl Junction is one of many small community temples in the four-state region.

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

□ Joplin area churches come in many different styles, but they have one common denominator. Each one of them is a



Small churches smatter the four-state area, like the Church in the Wildwood on the outskirts of Joplin. Many churches have resorted to more modern looking structures due to labor costs.

House of the Lord

Economy takes its toll on churches

By STEPHANIE GOAD
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Because of the steadily rising economy, today's churches are opting for a more economical standard when it comes to erecting new facilities.

Allen Moore, architect and engineer for McElwee Associates, said instead of extravagant, detailed buildings, churches are leaning toward a less traditional design.

"Fifty years ago they wanted space for a sanctuary and classrooms," he said. "Now, there are more multi-purpose buildings where they have a sanctuary, fellowship hall, and gymnasium within one common space. It is more economical and they get as much use out of their space as possible."

The gigantic, Gothic look with stone exterior and carved-out details is no longer the trend among places of wor-

ship. This is mainly due to building costs.

"The buildings are becoming more simple," Moore said. "It is not necessarily the desire of the church — it is driven by cost."

Large churches are still being erected, he said, but in smaller quantities. A trend is toward smaller churches with simpler exteriors.

"You hear about the bigger ones, but they are only built every so often," he said. "We deal with several smaller ones each year — there are thousands of them."

Dwight Brennfoerder, architect for Goodman Builders, said interior floor plans have moved from the rectangular-shaped sanctuary to a more fan-shaped auditorium.

"The fan-shaped auditorium is more popular because the audience has a sight line that is in radius to the pulpit," he said. "The preacher has more of a wide-angled span of the audience from his viewpoint. This

brings more people in closer, helping the eye contact, which helps in getting the message out."

Brennfoerder also said the upward swing in building costs have played a major role in the cost-consciousness of today's churches.

"The decorative churches are nice, but the churches can hardly afford it," he said. "They would rather spend the money on more square feet of functional space than decoration."

Churches have lost detail as they have evolved throughout the course of history. But, it's not due to lack of resources.

"The cost of labor has also gone up," he said. "Use to, you could pay a person \$5 a week, but now it's hard to find someone who will work for \$5 an hour. Wood is still wood, and stone is still stone, but the labor cost is still going up, and churches just can't afford it." □



ABOVE: St. Peter's Catholic Church is just one of a handful of churches in the Joplin area which feature the gothic cathedral look.

LEFT: Forest Park Baptist Church has gone through many changes since its original inception. Three separate buildings, all with their own style, make up the complex.

Photos by Deborah Solomon



CHRISTMAS CONTROVERSY

RELIGIOUS BUSINESS

Yuletide exhibition stirs strife

In a storm of controversy, Baxter Springs, Kan., schools were forced to rewrite the annual Christmas programs last year.

Because of complaints made to superintendent Tim Burns, references to religious preferences were removed from the performance.

The question of the legality of the nativity scene, portraying Mary, Joseph, Jesus, and the three wise men, was raised by Gene Barrett, a Baxter Springs attorney.

"I watched last year's program, and it looked like it crossed over the line to me," Barrett said. "I called the [American Civil Liberties Union] to get their advice and make sure I was seeing what I thought I was seeing, and they said it was an obvious violation of the law. We've had a separation of church and state in the Constitution for more than 200 years. The founding fathers came from a place where you had one church, the government supported it, and you paid taxes to it and had to attend."

Donna Whiteman of the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) said the decision was made based on an interpretation of the establishment clause, which separates church and state.

"Through court decisions, it has been ruled that schools not favor any religion over another," she said.

An effort to reinstate the scenes in question was led by the Rev. Fred Dycus, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Baxter Springs, and Chuck Wren, deacon at First Baptist Church. Dycus said a "well-intended" parent prompted the removal of Santa Claus and Christmas tree costumes as well as the nativity scene.

Dycus said his group believes both Burns and the school board were ill-advised. He said he had been in contact with the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), Freedom Under Fire, and the American Family Association (AFA).

"We want Tim Burns and the school board to know that they should not fear litigation because we have good power in our corner," Dycus said.

A release from Jay Alan Kekulow, chief counsel for the ACLJ, said in *Florey v. Sioux Falls School District*, religious songs and symbols can be used in public schools if they are presented in a "prudent and objective manner and only as part of the cultural and religious heritage of the holiday."

Barrett said he was not trying to remove Christ from Christmas, but was bringing a question of legality to the school's attention.

"You can't eliminate all the references to Christ in Christmas — it's a Christian holiday, and that's not what I want," Barrett said. "But you have to bring it in line with the law. Especially if you are a school, you want to teach kids to comply with the law." □



Stained glass is symbolic to several churches, and it's up to makers of stained glass windows like Dr. Duane Trimble to keep the symbolism alive.

FILE PHOTO

Stained glass maker sheds light on faith

By KIM GIBSON
STAFF WRITER

Stained glass holds a colorful place in the adornment of churches and is full of symbolism for those who are surrounded by it in services.

Dr. Duane Trimble, pastor at First Baptist Church of Joplin, said, "God is the god of light," and the stained glass windows are symbolic of that light because God is the source.

Stained glass can serve dual purposes in the church. Some windows depict biblical scenes or contain religious symbols such as a crucifix.

Pastoral scenes in stained glass, Trimble said, reminds the parishioners of their beliefs.

"I think it told a story of their faith," he said. Other windows simply provide beauty.

Sam Lopp, owner of Windfall Light stained glass studio, noted two distinct types of windows found in churches.

"I've worked designs from the contemporary to the traditional," he said.

Traditional stained glass, which Lopp said is more popular in the Joplin area, can be described as Tiffany style with opaque pieces.

Traditional windows were used in a recent project of Lopp's in a United Methodist church in Oswego, Kan.

The church now contains 12 windows, each illustrating a scene of Christ and a medallion (pane of stained glass) with a cross.

Contemporary windows contain a more stylized design.

Trimble said the stained glass windows at his church were put in for aesthetic reasons

and gave the sanctuary a more "worshipful" atmosphere.

Stained glass may have still different meanings for other churches.

Steve Brooks, owner of Binns Stained Glass, has recently moved his practice from Illinois to Webb City.

He is currently working on the design for the Assembly of God church in Springfield. The windows will represent the missionary origins of the denomination with abstract windows with a hint of a cross or a circle of unity.

Brooks said he believes the appeal of stained glass comes from the connection it has with the house of God.

"The color and the atmosphere it creates has always been associated with churches," he said. □

LATTER-DAY SAINTS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Mormons keep members active in church

By GINNY DUMOND
CAMPUS EDITOR

Service projects, scripture study, and fellowship are three terms used to describe the Latter-Day Saints Student Association.

Dr. Robert Clark, professor of communications, is the group's sponsor. He said support and steadiness in the faith is a main goal of the group.

"We want to keep everyone active in the church," Clark said. "They're preparing themselves to go into the church's temple."

Aside from worshipping together, students from the LDSSA also serve the community through work at Soul's Harbor, providing meals for the poor, and work with underprivileged children.

"I've seen a great deal of improvement since '86, which is when I began," Clark said.

While Clark is the group's faculty adviser, Elizabeth Schofield works with members as an institute of reli-

gion adviser from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Joplin.

"Because our church doesn't believe in paying staff members, I work with the institute of religion as a volunteer, but it is definitely worth it," she said.

Schofield, who has been with the program for nine years, said she thinks campus ministry is important to any campus.

"I think it helps the students to balance their lives with their secular and religious education," she said. "It helps them to focus on the things that are important."

Religion needs to be an essential part of everyone's life, according to Schofield.

"Religion isn't a bad thing," she said. "Everybody needs to have someone to hold onto, and God will always be there to hold onto."

Schofield says she hopes students from the LDSSA will be positive influences on the campus of Missouri Southern. □

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

LDSSA

Adviser:

Dr. Robert Clark

Phone number:

625-9791

When and Where:

Tuesdays, Thursdays
noon, BSC 306

PRECIOUS MOMENTS

Butcher's artwork more than figurines

By BRIAN PALMER
STAFF WRITER

The phenomenon known as Precious Moments is gaining in popularity around the country. Figurines, cards, cups, buttons, and any other item sporting Sam Butcher's artwork has become a collectible.

Tours to the chapel are expected to increase, especially in the upcoming months, which is profitable for both the Precious Moments company and the community. All this makes one wonder what Precious Moments means.

"Well, it's not a real religious thing," said Paul Atkins, a tourist from Columbus, Kan. "But it is inspiration. We come several times a year to look at the figurines, the story behind them, things like that."

Terry and Jan Uhl, from Vermillion, S.D., recently were on their way to Branson and stopped in Carthage to see Precious Moments.

"It's a tourist attraction," Jan Uhl said. "We really didn't know what to expect," added Terry Uhl. "We didn't know it would be this extensive."

Cindy Howrey, supervisor of the chapel and gallery, said she was reduced to tears the first time she took the tour. She added that even after five and a half years she is often affected by the chapel. "It's a fresh message every time those doors open," she said. "The people [who come to see the chapel] give us energy — their reactions help the tour guides to do this one more time."

Howrey believes Butcher's work is a type of ministry. She said there is a feeling of peace on the chapel grounds, and it is a place where people experience the spirit of the Lord.

"We once had a lady come in here with her children, and she realized they didn't know the Bible stories," Howrey said. "That inspired her to get her kids in Sunday school and church."

Howrey said there are many different groups who visit the chapel. Along with Sunday school groups, there are college groups coming during spring break, and of course, church groups. Howrey said the church groups who visit have been cross-denominational.

Heather Kelly, executive director of the Carthage Chamber of Commerce, says many people come to Precious Moments because it is a tourist attraction and because of the religious message. "We do a lot of group tour bookings," she said. "A lot of the group tours that we have seen have come for both the religious aspect of it and because they like [Butcher's] style and creativity."

"So many people collect the dolls and figurines, and they do it because they not only like the look of the figurines, but they have a connection themselves with Sam's message. If you go into his building, you can tell that there is some sort of spiritual connection there."

The Missouri Department of Tourism ranks Precious Moments as the second largest tourist attraction in Missouri, and says it is growing. Across the road from the chapel, construction has begun on "The Fountain of Angels," a 500-seat amphitheatre that is slated to contain 120 four-foot angel statues, music recorded by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, and a laser-light show.

Honeymoon Island is nearly complete and partially in use. The island will be able to cater to two weddings per day, and and tours of the Victorian mansion will be conducted. □



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Tours at the Precious Moments Chapel in Carthage are expected to increase, especially in the upcoming months, which is profitable for the entire community and for local tourism.

CHURCH ATHLETICS

Games, events attempt to intertwine church, communities

Organizers provide Christian environment

By NICK PARKER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Halftime — most think this means it's time for the players to head to the locker room for a mid-game meeting and the fans to make a quick trip to the snack bar. Some area residents, however, have found a new way to fill the time between halves.

In an attempt to heighten community involvement in a religious environment, some area churches have begun athletic leagues.

"We try to share the good news of Jesus

Christ. He died for our sins and offered salvation for our sins; that is the message of our league," said Rick Lairmore, league director at Fellowship Baptist Church in Joplin. "At halftime we have devotions; we reward not just wins but the coaches vote on a 'fruit of the spirit' award as well."

Lairmore said the idea for the "fruit" award stems from the Bible and is given to the team that displays such attributes as love, joy, peace, goodness, and self-control. The award is given at an annual banquet held at the end of the season.

Lairmore said one of the goals for the program is to provide a Christian environment for not only the youth of his congregation but for youth outside of the church family.

"It is an outreach event for our church,"

Lairmore said. "We want to get the community involved, not just our children, but also children who don't have a church home."

Barry Sanborn, youth minister and league director at First United Methodist Church of Joplin, said his church has a similar mission for their program. "Our goal is to reach out into the community," Sanborn said, "particularly high school students. The mission of our program is to provide an environment for children of all ages with a place where they can compete in a Christian environment."

Sanborn said membership in his youth group has increased as a result of the youth leagues. "A lot of the youth group members have initially entered the group because of the activities," he said. "It (the league) builds bridges for students who may not have known

friends were involved in a church group. One thing about the churches in the area is that we all work together. We have some people from First Baptist [of Joplin] who will play in the next volleyball league here."

"The feedback, especially on the basketball leagues, has been very good. If they are involved in another church, I encourage them to stay involved there; I don't try to compete. The students enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and playing at church. The parents enjoy watching their kids play with other kids they know."

Sanborn's congregation provides several athletic leagues: basketball for fifth through seventh grades, youth and adult volleyball, and a floor hockey tournament. He said some area teams hold practices in the church's facility. □

A day with...

RANDY GARISS

Minister at College Heights Church

Duties don't just include writing sermons, thoughts of God

By SCOTT FRANCIS
STAFF WRITER

Ahhh, Sunday morning. A chance to relax, sleep in, take the morning slow and easy. Or a chance to attend a local church and recharge your spiritual batteries...and relax, sleep in (the pew), take the morning slow and easy. Unless you happen to be a minister, in which case you're on center stage. Yes, but they have the rest of the week off. All they have to do Monday through Friday is write a sermon and think deep thoughts about God. Right?



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Randy Gariss, senior minister, answers one of many phone calls at the main office of College Heights Christian Church.

Well...not exactly. To illustrate, let's contrast the typical Monday of a local minister with an 8 to 5 office job. Randy Gariss is senior minister at College Heights Christian Church, located just east of Southern on Newman Road.

Since CHCC averages more than 1,000 in attendance during its three Sunday morning services, Gariss's duties differ considerably from those of a minister at a smaller church. The smaller the church, the wider the range of responsibilities the minister must shoulder. Many of the clerical and organizational duties that a pastor at a smaller church faces, like printing bulletins, arranging song services, and managing the business of the church in general, are handled by the rest of the staff and ministers at CHCC.

Several secretaries, a music minister, family minister, youth minister, children's minister, and others help cover the tremendous range of responsibilities that accompany a spot behind the pulpit on Sunday mornings.

"The focus of my work at College Heights is on taking care of the people that make up the church," Gariss said. "I allocate about 18 to 20 hours a week in speaking preparation, but the vast majority of my time and energy goes toward counseling, encouraging, listening, and just taking care of these people."

On Monday, March 17, most Southern students were out of town, and all were out of class, enjoying spring break. That Monday began for Randy Gariss as many days do, with a phone call — this one an update on a previous counseling session. The call came at around 7:15 a.m., after Gariss had already been up for a good half hour. He typically spends from 7:30 to 8:30 reading *The Joplin Globe*, on the lookout for information and news that might especially affect the families of CHCC. Then it's off to the office. On this particular Monday, Gariss and a few of the other ministers went out for bagels and coffee and a discussion of philosophy in general and church events in particular.

From 9:30 until 11:30, Gariss tackled the mundane aspects of life that every adult in any profession faces: returning phone calls (six in this case) and outlining his schedule for the rest of the week. Gariss, however, also tended to an area of life that is even more important for a man in his position: his personal devotions, Bible study and time spent in prayer.

Then, at 11:45, Gariss spent his lunch hour with a person seeking answers, direction, a listening ear, and some carefully chosen advice. A lunch meeting, perhaps, but an informal counseling session as well. By 1:15, he was back in the office. The next hour was spent returning three or four more phone calls, as well as visiting with two different individuals who had dropped in seeking advice and counseling.

At 2:30, Gariss sets aside a block of time for what many see as the minister's primary responsibility — study and sermon preparation. The hours from 2:30 until 5 were spent in research at both the Joplin Public Library and the Ozark Christian College library.

"In addition to the Sunday morning and Wednesday night services, I speak an average of five times a week outside the church," he said. "I have found that I need about 18-20 hours or so of preparation every week to be well prepared for those who have asked to hear me speak."

After a short break for dinner with his family, Gariss returns to the office, where from 6:30 until 10 he calls families and individuals on a list he had compiled.

"I had 20 people on the list that night, ranging from a teenager with a broken spine to a Southern student with a nursing home ministry to two couples experiencing marriage difficulties," he said. "I try to call about that many people every day, for encouragement and just to let them know that I care and that I'm here to help."

Gariss reached 16 of the 20 individuals on the list that night, offering words of encouragement, verbal pats on the back, and sympathy for those in pain.

At 10:30 he returned home to spend about an hour and a half in personal time, reading a Civil War history book, before hitting the sack in preparation for Tuesday.

Gariss admits that there are many difficult and demanding aspects of his job, but he contends that the benefits far outweigh the challenges involved.

"I love my job, and I love the people at College Heights. I do the best I can to take care of all of them, and they have more than repaid my efforts with more kindness and love than I could have ever expected."

"That's the life of a minister." □



College Heights Christian College, located in Joplin, averages more than 1,000 in attendance during its three Sunday morning services, which Randy Gariss leads.

RICK ROGERS/The Chart